# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

N
LAS

INDEX BUREAU
767.9115/18

SEE 767.91/39 FOR #1082

FROM Turkey ( Grew ) DATED July 14, 1930
TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: Turco-Persian frontier has always been a source of trouble between the two Governments. The Persian Government is said to have armed certain tribes to keep down the others, and often finds a situation which is hard to control. Turkey is sending troops and airplanes to quiet the situation.

las

Istanbul, July 14, 1920.

No. 1082

CONFIDENTIAL.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report disturbances along the Turco-Persian frontier considerably more serious than the usual raids occasioned by nomadic tribes as they drift back and forth across the border in search of pasture for their cattle. It appears that incursions into Turkey of bands from Persia, alleged to have been armed and equipped there, have coincided with an uprising led by certain Kurdish chieftains in the interest of a reactionary movement.

An intensive campaign of the Government to clean up this disturbed area began on July 5 when two army corps were sent against the so-called brigands who are

opening

operating principally in the vicinity of the two mountains, Agri-Dag (Ararat) and Suphan-Dag. A third corps was sent from Istanbul and Erzum, bringing the Turkish expeditionary force up to a total of approximately 15,000 men.

The fighting appears to be taking place in three vilayets: Van, (the northern part) Bitlis and Bayazit as well as extending into Persian territory near Maku. The Turks are employing airplanes. The Kurds are armed with machine guns. The latest official communiqué states that the frontier is rapidly being freed from banditry and that the Kurdish trouble-makers have either been exterminated or driven back to Persia from where they came.

Such are the reported facts in a situation fraught with rumors and potential complications for Turkey. It is too early to learn the true story of events, if indeed this ever will be known. The following points, however, should be kept in mind:

1. The extensive publicity now given in the press to recent events along the northeastern frontier, especially when contrasted with the previous complete lack of news tends to bring into exaggerated emphasis a situation which has never in recent years been altogether quiescent. News coming from Persia via Europe forced the Government to issue statements which are now most detailed and of course optimistic.

2. The Turco-Persian frontier has always been a source of trouble between the two Governments. An exchange of notes signed April 9, 1929, attempted to

settle

settle the problem by delimiting the frontier. However, certain points in dispute, notably the disposition of three series of villages: Mahn, Kotur and Bulak Bagi, were left to a border commission. This commission has been frequently interrupted in its labors.

5. While the Turkish press has been accusing the Persians of arming and inciting Kurdish bands to raid Turkish territory, it seems more likely that Persia is unable to keep her own frontier in order. The Persian Government is said to have armed certain tribes to keep down the others and in this fashion has created a guerrilla force which she is often unable to control. I am reliably informed that the Persian frontier force has been increased to 8,000 men and that Persia is making attempts to cooperate with the Turkish troops.

Relations between the two countries are cordial enough. Turkey is keeping her Ambassador Govdet Bey, in Teheran to complete the settlement of the frontier question and to confer over border difficulties. Tevfik Rustu Bey did state to the British Ambassador that he was seriously considering sending notes to the Secretary of State and to Mr. Litvinoff calling their attention to Persia's obligations as a signatory to the Kellogg Pact. However, the characteristic impulsiveness of the Foreign Minister does not seem to have led to such steps, particularly since Turkey now appears master of the situation within her borders.

4. There is no doubt that politically the present disturbances are of potential danger to Turkey, although any insurrection coming from a reactionary movement based on tribal, religious and social grounds appears so far to

have

have been suppressed. Selahettin, the son of Sheik Said, Kurdish leader of the 1925 revolt, was arrested some time ago for stirring up sedition in the Eastern provinces. He had become President of his father's secret society, "The Friends of Kurdistan", and was said to have been backed by the British authorities at Baghdad. His trial and that of his associates has been postponed until July 15 to await other prisoners captured in the present operations.

Selahettin's secret organization and the Hubyan Society (another Kurdish secret body) as well as the discontented elements left over from the 1925 rebellion may not be unrelated to the present disturbances. Although these are taking place in the north of the eastern provinces while the insurrection of 1925 occurred on Turkey's southern border, the reactionary leaders can of course easily shift the scene of their operations. The southern border is reported as orderly.

5. It is difficult to ascertain the rôle of the Soviets in Turkey's eastern frontier question. During the past year they are reported as having driven out various Mohammedan elements from their villages near the Turkish border. These elements are received favorably in Turkey. Conversely, conditions around Baku (Persian frontier) are said to have been aggravated by recent Soviet incursions into Persia in pursuit of fugitives from Russia. These incursions have laid waste the country and have forced the tribes to keep on the move, often into Turkish territory.

Hale

While the Government has apparently not considered the situation serious enough to make an official statement under the signature of one of its leaders, there is no doubt that it is doing everything within its power to avoid a recurrence of the 1928 insurrection. So faboit appears to have been successful.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Joseph C. Grew

Copy sent to American Legation Teheran.

Copy sent E. I. C., Paris.

EMK:fm

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 767.91/40 FOR #121

FROM Persia ( Hart ) DATED July 15, 1930
TO NAME

1—1127 GPO

INDEX BUREAU
N 767.9115/ 19

REGARDING: Reuter's news despatch from London reports complaint of Turkish Government to Persian Government regarding frontier raids by Kurds.

las

Teheran, Persia,

No. 121. July 15, 1930.

Confidential

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

With reference to the penultimate paragraph of my despatch No. 111 of June 31, 1930, regarding the disturbances on the Perso-Turkish border, I have the honor to report that, according to Reuter's news despatch from London, the Turkish Government has complained to the Persian Government with regard to the activities of bands of Kurds who have entered Turkey from Persia, pillaging the country

and

and inciting the inhabitants to rebel. The report continues that strong forces of Turkish troops with aeroplanes have inflicted severe losses on the raiders; that remnants of one band are holding out on the heights of Mount Ararat, and that troops are watching both sides of the Turco-Persian frontier. Asked whether the reports concerning these disturbances were true, the Turkish Ambassador said that they were nearly accurate and gave the following details.

He said that for some time the Turkish officials have been having difficulty with Kurdish raids into Turkish territory. Several Turkish towns were pillaged and in one case an officer and four gendarmes were killed. Caravans had been robbed and the situation was getting out of the control of the Turkish frontier guards.

The situation was complicated by the fact that the Persians had no proper frontier guards and had turned the protection of the frontier over to the various Kurdish chiefs. Though these chiefs constantly insisted that they had nothing to do with the raids into Turkish territory and denied that any of their men had taken part in these raids, the Turkish officials were convinced that these chiefs had at least indirectly aided in these raids by allowing their men to participate in them or by harboring Turkish Kurds fleeing across the border from the Turkish authorities who had carefully abstained from crossing the frontier. He

even feared that such Persian military as were near the frontier were none too assiduous in trying to check this practice, and might even be sharing in the spoils.

In this relation the Ambassador said that his Government had always had difficulty with the Persian frontier and, though there was a Turco-Persian protocol creating a mixed commission to settle border questions, it was impossible to get anything accomplished dealing with the Persians. He had made numerous protests to the Persian Government, which almost always agreed to all his Government's suggestions to remedy the unsatisfactory situation, but, as usual, the Persian Government did nothing about it. Turkey has similar arrangements with all its other neighbors, Bulgaria, Russia, Iraq, Syria and Greece, but there was never any difficulty even with the latter country for whom an almost national hatred existed in Turkey. He said that he believed in the sincerity of the friendship of Persia for Turkey, but the Persian habit of laissez-faire was even stronger.

Since the local frontier guards had been unable to cope with the situation a large number of Turkish troops were sent to the frontier and had succeeded practically in surrounding two principal bands of presumably Turkish Kurds, one of 1,500 between Great and Little Ararat, and another separate one of 300 in Seilan Valley west of these mountains and north

of

of Lake Van. The Ambassador said that at all costs his Government intended to capture or crush these bands. The prisoners would be transferred in small groups to various parts of the interior of Turkey, far from the frontier, where they would be given land and some financial help to establish farms and villages. The Ambassador believed that if this were successful it would break the spirit of the other border Kurds to the south who would stop their raiding of Turkish territory.

The Turkish Ambassador had been granted home leave by his Government and was about to return to Turkey in June when the situation became aggravated and he was compelled to alter his plans.

The Ambassador does not look well and, in addition to the natural fatigue of a long residence in Persia and tedious dealing with the Persian Government, he has lately been suffering from abscesses in his teeth. Even this seems to have had no effect on his habitual patience and courtesy.

With reference to the possibility of a Kurdish state between Turkey and Persia, extending north from the Iraq frontier to the Soviet border, the Ambassador said that the British desired this but that he regarded it as no more than a very remote possibility. The British hoped to control such a state and thus extend their influence to the Caucasus. This would place them in an advantageous position

in

in case of hostilities with the U. S. S. R. The Kurds, he said, though great fighters, are a nomad people composed of a number of tribes whose relations with one another are not always the best. The Ambassador said that both the British and the Persians had "spoiled" the Kurds, the former in the hope of future favors, and the latter because they had not enough stamina to keep them under control. He implied that Turkey had no intention of "spoiling" these tribesmen.

The Persian press reproduced a number of articles published by Turkish newspapers accusing Persia of responsibility for the situation by its slackness in dealing with the Kurds, and even implying that the Kurds had received assistance from the Persian Government. These imputations were met with vigorous denials in the Persian newspapers which were accompanied by the most cordial expressions of friendship for Turkey. Moscow was blamed as the source of these "false rumors". The IRAN said that Soviet agents were endeavoring to represent Persia as a bad neighbor in order to justify the recent violation of Persian territory by Russian troops and the Soviet wished to injure the cordial relations between the Oriental peoples.

It is understood that the Persian Government has sent troops to the border, who will at least make a show of assisting the Turkish authorities by attempting to close the Persian border to Kurdish

refugees

refugees and Persian Kurds who might assist the follows on the other side of the line.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Charles C. Hart.

Copy to American Embassy, Istanbul.

HH/T.

A true copy of the signed original. /-P.T.

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

INDEX BUREAU
767.9115/20

SEE 867.401/12 FOR Memorandum

FROM State Department, Near Eastern Division ( Ferrin ) DATED July 14, 1930.
TO NAME

1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: the history of the Kurdish tribes of Persia, Turkey, and Iraq, their troublesome nature, their various rebellions etc., leading up to a discussion of the present unsettled conditions along the Perso-Turkish frontier.

mb/

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

767.91/5/21

SEE 767.91/42 FOR # 1101

FROM Turkey ( Grew ) DATED July 26, 1930.

TO NAME

1—1127 OFO

REGARDING: the statement made by the Persian Charge at Ankara that Turkey wishes to make capital out of the Kurdish troubles on the Persian frontier in order to secure a strategic rectification of the Perso-Turkish boundary rather than a mere delimitation based on the 1913 agreement.

mb/

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

INDEX BUREAU
N-S
767.9115/22

SEE 767.91/46 FOR #145

FROM Persia ( Hart ) DATED August 25, 1930
TO
NAME

1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: Trouble seems to have flared up again concerning Kurdish disturbances on the Perso-Turkish frontier. Conflicting reports as to whether the Turks have actually crossed the boundary into Persia.

las

Teheran, Persia,

No.143. August 25, 1930.

# Confidential

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that since writing my despatch No. 127 of July 29, 1930, concerning the Kurdish disturbances on the Perso-Turkish frontier, the trouble seems to have flared up again in a somewhat more aggravated form, and I recount below the recent events bearing on this question.

A curious series of assertions and denials have appeared in the press. On August 12 the SÉTAREH'TE-DJÉHANE stated that Mendouh Chevket Bey,

Bey, the Turkish Ambassador, had in the name of his Government thanked the Persian Government for having aided the Turkish authorities in restoring order on the frontier by Persia's energetic attitude vis-a-vis the Kurdish insurgents. However, two days later the same paper published the Turkish Ambassador's statement that he had not done so. On August 15 the newspapers announced that the Turkish Ambassador had been recalled, and on August 17 a report from Turkey and other foreign countries that Turkish troops had entered Persian territory, was denied in an official statement from the Foreign Office published in the press. Furthermore, a Reuter's telegram from Istanbul said that the Turkish Government had sent a note to the Persian Government, calling for closer collaboration with the Turkish forces in the Kurdish disorders and implying a sharp criticism of Persia. On August 17 this was denied in the Persian press. On August 15, in a telegram from Ankara, Reuter's reported that Turkish troops were intrenched on the southern and eastern slopes of Little Mount Ararat well inside Persian territory, and on August 20 the same news service reported from Istanbul that a Persian note had been received declaring that under no circumstances would the Persian Government consent to military cooperation with Turkey against the Kurdish rebels in Persian territory. The Teheran press also published a statement to the effect that, contrary to rumors, the Turkish Government had not proposed an exchange of territory with the Persian Government.

All

All of this is somewhat confusing. The Turkish Ambassador did not attend the receptions at the German Legation and the Afghan Embassy on August 11 and 29, respectively, the National days of those two countries. In relation to his absence at these two receptions he told the Legation that since he had resigned, his resignation had been accepted and his successor named, he did not care to attend formal functions as he no longer felt he was Ambassador.

Mendouh Chevket then said that his own policy was not always that of his Government, and when the orders received required that he deviate too radically from what he regarded the proper procedure he resigned. He added that over two years ago, when on leave in Ankara, a note to the Persian Government was prepared which he did not approve. He resigned and his resignation was accepted. A few days later the Turkish Foreign Minister adjusted the matter to suit Mendouh Chevket and sent him back to Teheran.

While the Ambassador did not say so directly and was naturally reticent, it seemed very clear that the meaning which he intended to convey was that a similar situation had arisen; that his Government had sent him instructions with which he did not wish to comply and he had again resigned. The next logical inference would seem to be that the instructions had to do with the frontier troubles, and probably called for more vigorous representations or threats than the Ambassador was willing

to

to make. Press reports of a Turkish note sent and the denial of its reception by the Persian Government would seem to support this hypothesis. Furthermore the Turkish Military Attaché admitted the Ambassador's views on handling the frontier problem differed from those of Ankara.

Memdouh Chevket said that he had asked for permission to leave Persia at once on account of his health, having an enlarged heart, but his Government urged him to stay until his successor, Khosrov Bey, arrives, provided his health permits. The Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs assured him of his full confidence, but it is clear that he feels piqued.

He very naturally does not wish to meet his successor in Teheran and plans to meet him in Kasr-i-Shirin or Pahlevi, depending on the route he takes to Persia.

Obviously something has taken place between the Ambassador and his Government.

As to the frontier difficulties the British Consul in Tabriz reports that, according to the Military Commander in that town, the Persians lost 100 men and 4 officers in an action against the Jalali Kurds near Maku. The press and the War Ministry admit a loss of 20 men and 1 officer.

The most discussed question is whether the Turks have actually crossed the frontier. The Turkish Ambassador and Turkish Military Attaché say they have not. On the other hand there are

persistent

persistent unofficial reports that they have, and Colonel Dodd, British Military Attaché, said that he has it on excellent authority that on or about August 20 some Turkish troops penetrated 10 kilometers into Persia in pursuit of Kurdish rebels. He believes that this was done in error, since the frontier is not clearly defined, and that the matter has been smoothed over satisfactorily. The Egyptian Minister is of the opinion that there are Turkish troops on the Persian side of the line, but with Persia's consent. The Department will recall that the Turkish Ambassador informed the Legation that he had made arrangements with the Persian Government to permit that maneuver.

In any event a force of Kurds is said to have gathered between the two Mounts Ararat and are reported to consist of 1,500 rifles. It now appears that they have not dispersed as the Turkish Ambassador said, which statement was reported in the despatch under reference. An attempt is being made to surround these Kurds by combined Turkish and Persian forces and they are giving serious trouble.

The Turkish Military Attaché said that there are about 15,000 Turkish troops in northeastern Turkey engaged with the Kurds, but that the Persians only have one batallion of 600 troops on the southern and eastern slopes of Little Mount Ararat and perhaps another 600 troops along the frontier south of that mountain. This,he said, would be wholly inadequate against a force of 1,500 Kurds. Furthermore, there

are

are estimated to be all told about 250,000 Kurds in northwestern Persia, so it is easy to imagine these troops might be confronted by a very serious situation should the sympathies of these Persian Kurds become aroused. A Persian officer informed the Legation that he estimated that there were about 600,000 to 700,000 Kurds in Persia, 500,000 in Iraq, and 3,000,000 in Turkey.

When the Turkish Military Attaché was asked what Turkey desired Persia to do he replied that his Government wanted the frontier moved to the south and east of Little Mount Ararat so that hereafter Turkey could surround both mountains and deal with Kurdish rebels without entering Persian territory. The other provision which Turkey wanted was a permanent guard on the Persian side of the frontier. He said that would require some 7,000 troops.

In this connection Colonel Dodd estimates the total strength of the Persian army at 39,000 troops. He added that the Shah places his army at 60,000.

As regards the operations in Turkey, Colonel Dodd said that the losses have run into several thousands. The British liaison officer with the Syrian army at Aleppo reported that during a brief recent visit of Saleh Pasha, the Turkish Commander in the East, that officer referred to the losses as 4,000 casualties and 6,000 missing, presumably deserters. These figures would seem to be too large if there are only 15,000 Turkish troops in this area as mentioned above.

However,

However, the fighting has been exceptionally severe, and it is reported that many Kurdish villages in northeastern Turkey have been completely wiped out, including every woman and child, as a punishment for assisting the rebels. According to these reports the area west of Mount Ararat has been so thoroughly devastated that no forage can be obtained there and the army has to depend on long and difficult transport to supply the troops.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

HM/T.

A true copy of the signed original. J.R.T.

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

767.9115

767.9115/23

SEE 767.91/49 FOR #1130

FROM Turkey ( Grew ) DATED Sept. 24, 1930
TO NAME

1—1127 GPO

REGARDING:
Boundary negotiations. Persians desire delimitation according to the boundary settled in 1913.

Istanbul, September 24, 1930.

No. 1130

CONFIDENTIAL.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that the military campaign of suppression against the Kurds of Ağrı Dağ, referred to in my despatch No. 1124 of September 8, 1930, as having begun on September 7, appears to have been successfully finished on September 18. An official communique from General Salih Pasha, commanding the Turkish forces, describes the intensive operations lasting five days during which the desperate resistance of the Kurds forced the fighting to the very topmost peaks of Mt. Ararat. The Persian Chargé here informs me that on no occasion did the Turks cross into Persian territory, but that the Persian frontier force cooperated

with

with the Turks by means of liaison officers. The result was that the Kurds soon found their line of retreat cut off from all sides. The Chargé describes their last stand as made by an exceedingly well-armed and organized band of 2000 men. The resistance offered by such a force gives some idea of the Turkish losses which must have been considerable.

Although the Chargé has not yet received news of what became of the remaining Kurds in the Ağri Dağ region, there seems to be little doubt that this time the Persians, largely through fear of Turkish aggression, proved of considerable assistance in thoroughly cleaning up this last Kurdish stronghold.

Such a timely end to the Kurdish troubles - for this season at least - has furnished much-needed political capital to Ismet Pasha's Government. At the opening of the Assembly's special session on September 28, the Prime Minister gave a detailed and characteristically frank exposé of the whole affair. The Kurdish troubles he attributed to a desire on the part of their leaders to strike a final blow for independence before Turkey's railway program was completed and while their stronghold, Mt. Ararat, defied attack. He did not minimize the seriousness of the rebellion. He admitted the infiltration of armed bands on all Turkey's frontiers. He lauded the exploits and efficiency of the Turkish Army and pointed out the loyalty and acts of heroism by the populations of Erdjich, Van, Aldjevaz and

and Ahlat. Finally he defended the Government's policy of suppressing reactionary feudal elements and establishing equal rights and laws under the Republic. In referring to Turkey's relations with her neighbors, the Prime Minister struck a far milder tone than in his speech of July 30. He said in part:

> "The great states composing our neighbors by living up in a most friendly way to those treaties assuring the security of our frontiers have refused to give the least encouragement to the rebels after their suppression and flight. These states have even warned them that they will not allow their uprising.
>
> "They have also chased the rebels and expelled them in many places. These facts, while showing the consideration Turkey enjoys in international relations, is by the same token proof that our country in regard to its neighbors is following a policy based on a sincere and trustworthy security, on friendships and neighborly feeling, and that it will not allow subversive elements to embarrass those countries adjacent to it."

While negotiations with Persia over military cooperation against the Kurds seem finished, the Persian Chargé informs me that the demarkation of the frontier is still a thorny question. The Turks are preparing a favorable setting to ask for rectification, he asserts. The Persians, on the other hand, merely want delimitation according to the boundary settled in 1913. Meanwhile the question will be left to the Boundary Commission which has been interrupted in its labors. Failing an agreement by that body the question will be referred to arbitration, according to the frontier convention signed between the two governments on

April

April 9, 1923.

Respectfully yours,

Joseph C. Grew.

Copy sent American Legation Teheran.

Copy sent E. I. C., Paris.

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Teheran, Persia,

No. 260. December 31, 1930.

PM RECD
JAN 23 31
DEPT. OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 24 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

INDEX BUREAU
767.9115/24

# Confidential

FOR DISTRIBUTION

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that, according to Foroughi, Minister for Foreign Affairs, with whom I communicated yesterday with reference to several pending questions, the issue with Turkey concerning the frontier in the district of Mount Ararat, is on the way to settlement.

The inquiry to the Minister was predicated on an announcement made in Istanbul by Husrev Bey, Turkish Ambassador to Persia, to the effect that the controversy

FILED
JAN 26 1931

controversy had been settled in principle. Husrev Bey's statement came to my attention in a despatch appearing in the NEW YORK TIMES.

"The Turkish Ambassador has proposed an exchange of territory", the Minister said, "and the Persian Government has made a counter proposal and the matter is still under consideration."

While admitting that the Persian Government was ready to give up Little Mount Ararat, he was not disposed to indicate what has been asked in exchange. Neither would he throw any light on the details of the counter proposal. He said, however, that Persia would want proper and natural frontier lines.

"The present frontier line", he said, "passes between the two mountains, Big Ararat and Little Ararat. The Larger Ararat is in Turkish territory and the Lesser Ararat is in Persia. There are still other ranges of mountains between the Two Ararats. The Kurds are constantly shifting from one mountain to the other, thus causing disputes between the Turkish and Persian authorities. If the Turkish forces cross the border in pursuit of the Kurds the Persian Government objects and conversely if Persian troops cross over the Turks protest. Hence it has become necessary that one Government should give its part of the Ararat base to the other Government that the latter may have complete control of the troublesome territory."

My personal judgment is that the question is not so near settlement as Husrev Bey would make it appear. Colonel Dodd, British Military Attaché, informs me that

that to give up Little Ararat the Persian Government would actually be making a sacrifice and he thinks such an exchange would be a mistake. I was allowed access to Colonel Dodd's secret reports made at the time of the Kurdish disturbances of last summer. These reports show that at that time the Shah told an interviewer that he would go to war before he would give up one inch of Persian territory.

On October 22, 1930, Colonel Dodd reported that "steps have been taken to transplant a large number, some 5,000 Kurds, from the region of Maku and Ardebil. At the same time an effort has been made to disarm the Kurds within the Persian frontier, and Khalid Agha, Chief of the Djelali tribe, is believed to be on his way to Tabriz."

The Teheran newspaper, GOLSHAN, reported on December 24, 1930, that nearly 300 families of the Djelali tribes have been moved. One hundred families, it reported, have been lodged in Karachehdagh and 150 families in the villages of Mishkin (northeast of Ardebil and Azerbaijan). The report said further that 15,000 of their livestock have been entrusted to the Shahsevan tribes in Moghan (northeastern extremity of the province of Azerbaijan) with instructions to care for them through the winter and return them to the rightful owners in the spring. No mention of this forced migration is made in any other newspaper.

It is worthy of comment that the combined numbers mentioned by the newspaper and Colonel Dodd constitute only an infinitestimal fraction of the entire Kurdish population of that district, a population estimated

at

at from 250,000 to 600,000. It seems reasonable to suppose therefore that such migrations have been forced only as a friendly gesture to appease the Turkish Government.

This question is of a far more delicate nature to Persia than to Turkey. The Persian Government has never undertaken to deal harshly with the Kurds as with Lurs and other tribes in the south. In the first place the Kurds are powerful in numbers as well as being clever soldiers. While they have made some trouble this has been mainly directed against Turkey because of Turkey's harsh treatment of the Kurds residing in that country. The Persians have felt that the Kurds, situated as they are, were useful in acting as a buffer against Turkish aspirations on this side of the frontier.

The question, in my opinion, has been badly bungled by the Turkish Ambassador, thus rendering the negotiations more difficult. Soon after he presented his letter to the Shah in September he gave an almost endless interview to a Teheran newspaper on Turkish policy toward Persia. He told how the Ararat question (sometimes called the Agridegh question, Agridegh being the Persian name for Ararat) was to be settled by an exchange of territory on the frontier. He remained here a few days and then went home without mentioning the proposal to the Persian Government. It was many weeks after he had returned to Istanbul that the proposal actually was submitted for the first time to Foreign Minister Foroughi in a note. The Persian

Government

Government was, justifiably I think, displeased with reading that the Kurdish question was about to be settled by a formula which had not so much as been submitted officially to its Foreign Minister.

It will be recalled that a joint commission of Turks and Persians was appointed sometime ago with authority to go to the frontier and seek to settle the question on the ground. After weeks spent on the frontier and a threshing over of the issues involved the commission dissolved with nothing done. The chairman of that commission, Sardar Emtessar, Governor of Southern Ports, passed through Teheran on the way home three weeks ago. He said the delimitation commission had made not the least headway.

On the ground, he said, the question presented many troublesome aspects that do not appear to one looking at it from Teheran or Istanbul. The only way to settle it, he said, is for the Turkish Ambassador and the Persian Minister for Foreign Affairs to sit down in the Foreign Office in Teheran and draw an arbitrary line and imagine they have disposed of the question. On the ground it is necessary, he declared, to seek some natural frontier, making allowance for rivers and for mountains other than Little Ararat, and to draw such a frontier requires giving up or taking considerably more here and there than appears to be required to one looking at the question from a distance. He did not accuse the Turkish members of the commission of being unreasonable.

According

According to his statement they were as much perplexed as were the Persian members of the Commission.

Respectfully yours,

Chas. C. Hart

Charles C. Hart.

COPY TO E. I. C., PARIS.

4 Carbon Copies
Received M.E.M.
2 copies in IB for notes.
Gow.

AM RECD
BUREAU
DEPT. OF STATE
FEB 11 31

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Teheran, Persia

No. 295. January 14, 1931

FOR DISTRIBUTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 12 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.9115/25

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

767.9115
767.91

Sir:

I have the honor to report that Husrev Bey, Turkish Ambassador, is expected to return to Teheran about January 20, 1931.

Immediately on his return the purpose is, I am informed, to take up negotiations with the Persian Government for the settlement of the Mount Ararat question which involves a revision of

FILED
FEB 13 1931

of the Turco-Persian frontier.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

Copy to E. I. C., Paris.

RECD

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Teheran, Persia,
January 22, 1931.

No. 310.

FEB 19 31

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 20 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

# Confidential

767.9115/26

FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK

| | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|
| To the Field | | ✓ |
| In U. S. A. | | ✓ |

767.9115
note 701.9167

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that Husrev Bey, Turkish Ambassador, has not returned to Teheran up to this time, and the settlement of the frontier question in the vicinity of Ararat remains in abeyance.

But while Husrev Bey has been prolonging his absence he has not remained speechless. Just for this reason I fear that he will find the Persian official

FEB 21 1931

DONE 2-21-31

official mind in a bad state of health upon his return. In my despatch No. 260 of December 31, 1930, page 4, I reported that Husrev Bay published his formula for the settlement of this troublesome question before submitting it to the Persian Government. Recently he has been talking again in Istanbul, and his interviews have been given wide publicity, somewhat to the exasperation of high Persians.

I do no think that Foroughi, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has allowed his temper to break from its moorings, but unfortunately Foroughi has not the last word on Persia's foreign affairs. The ardent, vain, narrow nationalism of others who exercise more power, especially Teymourtache, does not permit of too much of a single-handed one-sided settlement in a faraway country of questions in which Persia is directly interested.

The latest interview of Husrev Bey, published in the newspaper MELLIET, Istanbul, while intended to be friendly in tone, appears to contain one or two implied criticisms of Persian policy which are not relished here, and my prediction is that a long period will elapse before any exchange of territory can be arranged. A better prediction probably would be that this question will remain unsettled through the centuries.

If Chevket Bey, former Turkish Ambassador here, could not achieve the conclusion of a commercial

treaty

treaty with Persia after negotiations of three and one-half years, small chance there is for Husrev Bey, a man of a haughty bearing, to accomplish a settlement of a far more ticklish question.

Chevket Bey is one of the most charming men of any diplomatic service. He had the further advantage here of being able to see the Shah whenever he desired to call, and was able to hold conversations with no third person present, a distinct advantage, because shortly after he arrived here he was speaking Persian much like a native. With this advantage he was able to command the assistance of the Shah in pressing for the conclusion of the treaty arrangement, but for six months before his departure only one formality remained, that was the signing. The Persian Government never signed and it remains to see if Husrev Bey can do better.

Husrev Bey does not carry himself with any of the suavity of his predecessor. There is a natural haughtiness in his disposition which he keeps in the background with some laborious effort. He does not expect anyone, even Persians, to speak Turkish but he is preceptibly intolerant of those persons identified with foreign relations who do not speak French. He permits this to be known in rather frank fashion. I have not the least doubt that he finds himself irked because the Shah does not converse in French.

Some of my diplomatic friends who have had to use their French most of their lives have

expressed

expressed the wish that they could speak Turkish because they say Husrev Bey spills his French with the ruthlessness of the late René Viviani, who had the reputation of believing that no other language than that of France should be permitted on the public highway. Much of that attitude of mind was disclosed by Viviani during the Washington Arms Conference.

But just now it is not so much Husrev Bey that is causing irritation as it is the attitude of the Turkish press, the comments of which, according to views of a segment of the Persian intelligentsia, has breathed somewhat of an air of truculence in the discussion of Turco-Persian relations.

IRAN, foremost of Persian newspapers, takes up the question by publishing the interview with Husrev Bey which appeared in the Istanbul paper MELLIET and editorials from the NEAR EAST AND INDIA and the LONDON TIMES. The interview with Husrev Bey was obtained after he had returned to Istanbul from Ankara and a conference with Ismet Pasha. He is quoted as saying:

> The sincere relations existing between Turkey and her oriental friendly neighbor, Persia, are passing through a stage of evolution along the line of friendship. This friendship and sincerity are gradually being strengthened.
>
> The respect and kindness which the up-to-date Sovereign of Persia, His Majesty Pahlevi, entertains for Gazi Mustapha Kemal, is very cordial. Doubtless this sincerity, while supported by co-religious and co-racial relations, is the sequel of the designs of His Majesty Pahlevi and the Gazi to promote

progress

progress and civilization in their countries. As a result of this friendship the grounds have been prepared for comfort and security on the frontiers, and the basis of future peace in the Near East will thereby be fortified more than in the past.

Blood-thirsty revolters had gathered together on Mount Ararat which they imagined to be unsurmountable. The high cliffs and the unclimbable rocky slopes of the same mountain were taken and invaded in a very short period of time by our brave and victorious soldiers. The insurgents with all their illusions were entirely buried forever in the same ragged rocks. Not even one insurgent soul remains alive in that locality where full security is now prevailing.

The mixed frontier commission is discharging its duties in conformity with the plan laid out in the Ankara agreement. The proposal of the Turkish Government, based on the sincere desire to establish security on the commercial road of Trebizond-Erzerum-Tabriz, which provides for an exchange of Mount Ararat, has been accepted in principle.

This mountain covers a small area and has no other use save as a position which would serve to insure tranquility for both parties.

The Persian Government has demanded a territory in southern Turkey in exchange for the mountain, and the Turkish Government has assumed a favorable attitude towards granting the requested territory. Action is now being taken to determine the status of such territory. It goes without saying that the exchange of a productive area for a rocky zone which has no other use than maintaining order reveals the sincerity of the Turkish Government as regards the Government of Persia. It is for this reason that I hope the Persian Government will give an early reply. In any event proper schemes have been formulated to forestall disorder in the coming spring.

The Persian Government took indirect measures during the Ararat disturbances, disarmed the outlaws who escaped to Persian territory, arrested their chiefs, suppressed the recalcitrants, moved a part of the frontier Kurds farther back into the interior of the country and obstructed any assistance which the Persian tribes would have lent the insurgents

in

in Turkey. For example, it disarmed Ihsan Nuri, Sheikh Abdol Ghader and the sons of Hossein Pasha, the Blind, with their followers, who were first brought to Tabriz and thence sent to Teheran. The Persian Government, by moving these blood-thirsty individuals to eastern regions, has promised to make every effort to prevent their flight and communication with outside.

As to the projected commercial convention between Persia and Turkey which was long since being negotiated in Teheran and towards which great progress had been achieved, the pourparlers have latterly been shifted to Ankara where a special commission has been formed for their conclusion. This matter will be settled before long, because the Persian Government will thereby be more benefited than Turkey.

The Turco-Persian commercial relations are on a much lower level than is desired by both parties. This is solely due to order and security which was lacking on the Trebizond-Erzerum-Tabriz road as a result of the latest disturbances. Tranquility now prevails on that road, and considerable improvement will be effected in commercial relations if the road is made suitable to motor traffic.

The Turkish merchants doing business in Persia are nil as compared with the large number of Persian merchants, commercial institutions, schools and hospitals operating in Istanbul and other commercial centers in Turkey.

At present the Germans, the French and even the Dutch have markets in Teheran where they sell sundry commodities. Foreign schools and hospitals are also to be had.

In view of the interest shown in Persia by distant countries, young and civilized Turkey should have more contact with her ethnic neighbor and should endeavor to increase and improve the relations.

The Persian press is passing through a stage of development, but is still retaining the Arabic alphabet. It may be said that there is no official newspaper and that most of the Persian statesmen are unaware of the improvement achieved by the Turkish press.

The newspapers IRAN, SHAFAGH-I-SORKH and SETAREH'YE DJEHANE are being exchanged with Turkish papers. Such contact with the Turkish press will doubtless help the improvement of our friendly neighbor's publications.

The

The Persian press for the first time has evinced interest in the Turco-Persian affairs and has been commenting freely on the necessity of strengthening friendship between the two countries. It will be very useful if the Turkish press and news agencies will send a representative to Teheran.

Persia and Turkey have common interests from the standpoint of maintaining peace in the Orient. Their commercial relations promise a very important future. it is estremely essential that Turkish and Persian politicians, journalists and men of culture should have contact. If the Turkish athletes should have contact and matches with the newly born Persian athletes, they will be of great help to the Persian sportsmen.

The IRAN then reproduced the translation of the following article which appeared in the NEAR EAST AND INDIA on December 25, 1930, under the title "Turkey and Persia":

It appears to be owing more to climatic conditions than to any access of new amiability between Turkey and Persia that the activities of the Kurds near the Turco-Persian border have been little reported of late. A rumor was spread, indeed, that the whole matter of the frontier had been settled, that Persia had agreed to cede Mount Ararat to Turkey in return for other land farther south; but that rumor seems to have been premature. The Turkish press, at any rate, is much exercised at the moment by Persia's reported releasing of certain Kurdish chieftains who played a prominent part in the fighting against Turkey a few months ago. To judge from some Turkish commentators, indeed, one would think that the Persian Government is deliberately taking hostile measures through the Kurds. This, of course, is absurd: Persia has not the slightest interest in unrest just outside her borders. It may be thought surprising, after the frank exposé of the situation by the Turkish Minister in Persia, Ridvanbegoghlou Khusrev Bey, that suspicion of motives should still be so rife.

The IRAN also reproduced a Persian translation of the following item from the LONDON TIMES of December 19, 1930, under the caption, "The Turco-Persian Frontier - A New Difficulty":

From

(From our correspondent).

Constantinople, December 17, 1930. - According to the official MILLIET the Persian Government has released certain of the Kurdish tribal leaders who played an important part in the revolt in Turkish Kurdistan in the summer. These chiefs are said to be near the frontier and the Persians are further accused of having rearmed some of the Kurdish tribes.

In Turkish official circles a serious view is taken of the situation thus created, and instructions have been given to the Turkish frontier forces to deal summarily with any attempts on the part of the Kurds to stir up fresh trouble. These instructions include authority to cross the Persian frontier in pursuit of Kurds.

It has surprised people to find that Turco-Persian relations should again become strained, as the recent declarations of Ridvanbegoghlou Khusrov Bey, the Turkish Ambassador to Teheran, indicated that an amicable settlement of all territorial and other questions had been reached. It is also remarked that this renewal of Turco-Persian tension has coincided with the Turkish decision to open up the road from Trebizond through Erzerum to Tabriz, and thus enable merchandise to enter Northern Persia through Turkey, instead of through Soviet territory, as at present.

"The Turkish Ambassador is certainly interested in the existence of friendship and co-operation between the two countries", says IRAN, commenting on his statement. "In view of his official capacity he is doubtless equipped with adequate information and is, therefore, competent to be optimistic and hopeful for the existence of sincere friendship between Turkey and Persia. On our own part we corroborate his optimism. The foreign press, however, quoting Turkish papers, express embarrassment over the Perso-Turkish relations at a time when the Turkish Ambassador makes the foregoing assertions. Different interpretations are made by different people.

"We

"We are not surprised over the foreign press, because it may not contain ample and accurate information regarding the truth of the matter. The Turkish press is what is surprising us. We are at a loss to understand the object of the Turkish press in insisting on persistently publishing news on strained relations between Persia and Turkey.

"The Persian press and Government have said time and again that in the Kurdish affair the Turkish and Persian policies are alike and by no means conflicting, and as pointed out by the NEAR EAST AND INDIA it is absurd to think that the Persian officials support the Kurdish revolt against Turkey. This has already been repeatedly proved in practice. We wish to say once more in brief that the Persian Government has in the first place given Turkey effective assistance in fighting the Kurdish outlaws. Were it not for this assistance the Ararat affair would not have come to a head so rapidly.

"In the second place, in view of international custom and usage the chiefs of the Ararat refugees who sought asylum with the Persian Government have not been turned over to the Turkish Government, but they are kept in confinement and under rigid surveillance in Persia. There is, therefore, no likelihood of trouble coming from their side.

"In the third place, the Persian Government has depopulated the Kurdish zone on the border by driving the Kurds away from the frontier lest they should help the Kurds in Turkey against the wishes and decision of the Persian Government.

"In

"In the fourth place, the Persian Government is exercising such strict supervision that any official found guilty of the slightest negligence in carrying out the orders of the central Government is dismissed at once.

"In the fifth place, the Persian area which Turkey suggests to take in return for land farther south is of paramount strategic importance. Nevertheless, the Persian Government agreed to cede this area (Ararat) in case its counter-proposal is accepted.

"None of these measures were taken with reluctance, but it was with great pleasure and good-will that the Persian Government assumed this attitude.

"This is why it is a puzzle to us that, in spite of all this good-will, inaccurate reports are published in the Turkish press or supplied to the foreign press by Turkish news agencies. Still more surprising is the Turkish Government's reticence vis-á-vis these fabrications and its failure to deny them. You cannot object too much if the correspondents of a German newspaper or NEW YORK HERALD or the TIMES should be unaware of the facts. But why does the Turkish Government which is fully conversant with the situation allow the publication of such news and why does it not deny them?

"Does Turkey anticipate further unrest in the coming spring and is she endeavoring to cultivate the public opinion for the future to blame others for the trouble?

"Is the Turkish press being influenced by the policy of those foreign powers who are undoubtedly

loath

loath to see cordial relations maintained between Turkey and Persia, and who are embroiling the public opinion by such delusive fallacies?

"Would it not be better for both Governments to exchange views if there is any real divergence with a view to eliminating it, so that we may no longer see any more of such stuff in the foreign press as the invasion of the Persian territory by the Turks?

"We have no fundemental misgivings in this matter; we are only sorry that the western countries are taunting us from a distance with their derisive grins."

As to Husrev Bey's statement incorporated in this despatch, either it was issued longer ago than has been indicated or he was ignorant that the mixed frontier commission abandoned its labors some time since, holding that its efforts were futile.

When Husrev Bey returns to Teheran it may be discovered that first impressions were erroneous. He may prove to be a man of metamorphic mind whose moods swing between two extremes. When he was here he frankly expressed his displeasure with Teheran as a post, and when a Turk intimates that the Persian capital is not a fit place for his Turkish wife to reside his case, it seems to me, presents a study in metaphysics.

He may return in a better frame of mind, with a new inspiration and diposed to see in his elevation to Ambassador an honor worth taking seriously, even

though

though the honor requires residing in Persia. But it is my conviction that after what appears to have been a happy stay in Sofia he feels the field of his true usefulness lies west, not east.

One very obvious error of Husrev Bey's to anyone knowing the Persian mentality is the published postulate that by its proposal the Turkish Government is offering a sacrifice in the interest of better relations with Persia. Persia makes no pretense of sacrifice and recognizes no such magnanimity on the part of others.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

Copy to E. I. C., Paris.

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G. W.

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LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Teheran, Persia,
February 11, 1931.

No. 372.

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MAR 5 31

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MAR 6 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

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To the Field
In U. S.

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The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that although Husrev Bey, Turkish Ambassador, has been in Teheran for three weeks, conferences with the Persian Ministry of Foreign Affairs relative to the settlement of the Perso-Turkish frontier question have not begun.

Foroughi, Minister for Foreign Affairs, informed me at a dinner last night that he had expected Husrev Bey to open the question immediately on his return

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three weeks ago, but that the Turkish Ambassador had gone no further than to say he was not yet ready to begin discussions. Foroughi said the frontier question was first taken up here by Chevket Bey, former Turkish Ambassador, last August. Discussions were then cut short by the departure of Chevket Bey for Ankara.

Foroughi repeated then the information which I communicated to the Department some weeks ago, that Husrev Bey came here in September and departed two or three weeks later without mentioning the subject. Later he took up the question with the Persian Government by note to Foroughi from Ankara or Constantinople.

It seemed to me that I detected in Foroughi's voice a note of disappointment. The numerous published interviews with Husrev Bey in the Turkish press had undoubtedly led the Persian Government to believe that Husrev was returning here prepared to settle the question and even to offer very considerable concessions on the part of the Turkish Government finally to determine the question.

My opinion is that Husrev Bey is playing with fire. Only a few weeks hence the snows will melt away on the slopes of Little Mount Ararat and the Kurds will swarm like bees from their hibernal haunts, hungry for food and trouble making. If seemingly authentic reports that the Ararat Kurds did not fare so badly in the conflict with Turks and Persians last summer are true, there is no reason

why

why the raids should not be renewed.

The Turkish Government, I would say, is not at fault in the present crisis. The blame seems to rest on Husrev Bey whose superiority complex, acquired at that most extreme eastern outpost of western civilization, Sofia, is leading him into the mistake of exhibiting too boldly his feeling of contempt for his fellow orientals, the Persians.

In no country in the world do I believe it safe for a diplomatic official to put on parade his distaste for the people of the Government to which he is accredited. But, perhaps, Husrev Bey is in that state of mind where he does not care and prefers to be frank. Mayhap he feels proud that his open dislikes were openly arrived at.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart

Charles C. Hart.

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LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, Persia,

No. 386. February 19, 1931.

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767.9115/28

# Confidential

FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK
To the Field
In U. S. A.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Referring to my previous despatches concerning the Turco-Persian boundary dispute, I have the honor to report that, as far as I am aware, no further developments appear to have taken place. However, I present in the following paragraphs some of the influences bearing on this vexed question as they suggest themselves, though of necessity it involves a certain amount of repetition and stating of the obvious for the purposes of clarity.

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The chief difficulty in dealing with this subject is the paucity of definite information obtainable, which lack has been much accentuated by the departure of the former Turkish Ambassador, Memdouh Chevket Bey, who so kindly offered many illuminating remarks during his stay in Teheran.

Nevertheless, as reported in my despatches, a few points seem to be quite clear.

That Turkey is keenly desirous of obtaining the Persian or southern and eastern slopes of Little Mount Ararat, ostensibly in order to eliminate the entire district as a Kurdish stronghold, has been too much stressed in Turkish public and private statements to require emphasis here. On the other hand it is not clear how strongly Persia feels that the loss of this small area would affect Persia's stragetic position in the Maku valley, in particular, and northern and western Persia in general.

The views of Colonel Arfa on this point (see 761.91/51 Conf.
my despatch No. 166 of September 20, 1930) were very concrete and the Department will recall that he believed that both the Persian General Staff and the Foreign Office shared his deep suspicion that Turkey looks at this stragetic position with a future conquest of Persian Azerbaijan in mind. But Colonel Arfa is first a soldier, and I am not at all sure that the Persian Foreign Office is not seriously contemplating a trade. This is especially true since it is well within the bounds of possibility that Turkey will force Persia to give in on this point if she does not do so otherwise. The reported

encampment

encampment or garrison of Turkish troops on the Persian slopes of Little Mount Ararat (see despatch No. 333 of January 28, 1931), strongly lends credence to this hypothesis. Furthermore, Foroughi has admitted that Persia "had accepted in principle" the proposal to give up Persia's Ararat district. This admission of the Foreign Minister is the more convincing and significant when judged in the light of the reported occupation of that district by Turkish troops referred to above.

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There have been frequent public and private references to the proposal that Turkey should compensate Persia for her Ararat district by giving a large and fertile area of Turkish territory farther south. The bargaining over the amount of this compensation is, no doubt, an important factor in these negotiations, as in such matters all countries, especially Oriental ones where appearances are given such weight, may be expected to demand a tangible quid pro quo. However, I believe that the real kernel of the bargaining lies not in the size and location of the Turkish territory to be given to Persia but in the question of the Trebizond road.

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Persia is naturally extremely anxious that a good road be built on the Turkish portion of this historic route from Azerbaijan to the Black Sea. It is the natural economic outlet of northern Persia. I have even heard it suggested that a railway also is being considered.

To be sure there is under construction the Rowanduz road,

road, which is to run from Tabriz, south of Lake Urumia, and across the Iraq frontier to the rail-head at Nishibin, and I understand that all but about fifteen or twenty miles on the Persian side are completed. This last bit runs through very difficult country and there is a much longer stretch on the Iraq side on which the work is proceeding very slowly owing to the straitened financial position of Iraq, as well as the physical obstacles in the way of its completion. When finished this Rowanduz route will, however, never be as economical an outlet for northern Persia as would be a good Trebizond road, since Trebizond, a seaport, is not much farther than, if as far as, Nishibin from which a long rail haul is necessary to reach the sea.

This brings me back to Persia's self evident anxiety for the opening of the Trebizond road, especially since, as the Department is aware, Russia at present is for all practical purposes the only outlet for north Persian produce and therefore can fix its own price. Persia's discomfort in this situation is too obvious to call for comment.

Should Turkey build the Trebizond road a great part of this compulsory and unremunerative trade with Russia would go to the Turkish port, doubtless to the profit of Turkey. Thus, if the construction of the Trebizond road would not entail too great an expense, it would appear that both Turkey and Persia could only benefit financially by such a venture.

Conversely,

Conversely, in the event of such a road being constructed, Russia would lose much of its lucrative control of northwestern Persia and, therefore, will no doubt endeavor to prevent the building of that road.

I might mention here the view which has sometimes been offered that the U. S. S. R. desires Turkey, Persia and Afghanistan to be strong and mutually peaceful, and if they cannot be kept friendly to Russia she none the less needs them as protection from the south. What foundation if any there may be in this hypothetical policy, I doubt that it has perceptibly influenced the Soviet toward a more friendly attitude in regard to the Trebizond road project, and I feel that my previous surmise, namely: that Russia is whole-heartedly opposed to such a project, is correct.

When it comes to the relationship between Turkey and Russia as regards this question, I am almost wholly at sea in the absence of any concrete or even suggested information to go upon. At the British Legation one hears that Ankara has cooled considerably in its attitude toward the Soviets during the last year. Memdouh Chevket Bey suggested as much last summer, but added that Turkey could not afford to offend Russia.

Such vague and intangible allusions are not of much help in estimating the triangle of conflicting interests discussed in the previous pages. By this triangle, which to be sure is based largely on assumptions, I mean that Persia desiring freedom from

economic

economic dependence on Russia appears willing to trade her stragetic position in the Ararat district for the Trebizond road; and Turkey, keenly anxious for the control of the entire Ararat district is perhaps willing to build the road but is afraid of thus irritating Russia.

As I said above, the weakest link in this chain of reasoning lies in the absence of any definite information on Turco-Russian relations and, therefore, the unknown quantity of how far Turkey may flaunt Russia with impunity.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

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LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, Persia,

March 11, 1931.

No. 437.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 2 1931
DIVISION OF
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The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

767.9115

Sir:

I have the honor to report that although Husrev Bey, the Turkish Ambassador, has been in Teheran for several weeks he has made no move toward a settlement of the Turco-Persian frontier problem growing out of the Kurdish rising of last year.

This course has been surprising in view of the frequent interviews given out by Husrev Bey in Turkey during the last months of 1931 to the effect that the question would be determined amicably immediately on

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his return to Teheran.

My opinion is that the Ambassador has failed to open the negotiations because of a moodiness which overcame him when he returned to the Persian capital. His prima donna temperament, I feel, has served him badly, but G. T. Havard, British Oriental Secretary, sees a different reason for Husrev Bey's failure to act.

"The Turks have everything they want," Secretary Havard said, "so why should they bother? Their troops are occupying Little Mount Ararat, the troublesome ground, on Persian side in plain sight of Persian troops. Failure of the Persian Government to order the Turks to evacuate is taken as Persian acceptance and, therefore, the controversy is settled so far as Husrev Bey is concerned."

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

Copy to E. I. C., Paris.

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# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

767.91/30

SEE 767.91/59 FOR #444

FROM Persia ( Hart ) DATED Mar.17, 1931

TO NAME

1—1172

REGARDING:

Boundary question between Turkey and Persia. Invasion of Persian territory by Turks in pursuit of Kurds. Status of the boundary negotiations. Question of the territory to be ceded. Boundary protocol of April 9, 1929. Tabriz-Trebizond road. Willingness of Turkey to grant Persia free port privileges at Trebizond.

W1

Teheran, Persia,
March 17, 1931.

No. 444.

Confidential

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

With reference to my previous despatches concerning the Turco-Persian frontier, I have the honor to report that according to a current but as yet unconfirmed rumor, Turkish troops are said to have penetrated 24 kilometers into Persian territory near Mount Ararat a few days ago ostensibly in pursuit of Kurdish bandits from the Turkish side of the line.

The British Consul at Tabriz, who communicated to this Legation this reported penetration, added that he had been told that the Persian troops stationed in and about Tabriz had been rushed to the Khoi area southeast of Ararat.

These

These reports were given some color by the rumor in Teheran that all available trucks in town had been commandeered to carry troops from the capital. Colonel Dodd, the British Military Attaché, had inquiries made and learned that such orders had actually been given but were later partially countermanded. It is also said that a number of truck loads of ammunition have been sent to the north.

On March 17, I had occasion to call on both Foroughi, the Foreign Minister, and later on Hussrev Bey, the Turkish Ambassador, when the frontier was mentioned.

As to the reported penetration of Persia, Foroughi did not admit that Turkish troops had entered Persian territory but said that some Kurdish bandits had crossed the Persian frontier a few days before. But to Foroughi this must be an unpleasant subject at best and I doubt that he would even be willing to admit, as reported in previous despatches, that there are Turkish troops encamped on the Persian slopes of Little Mount Ararat.

Feeling that he would naturally desire to be reticent on this score, I confined my talk to the progress of his conversations with the Turkish Ambassador on the boundary question. He said they had had many discussions on the subject but had made no progress. Somewhat to my surprise Foroughi said that the trouble was that Hussrev Bey "has no power to settle anything", adding that being fresh from Turkey himself, he was thoroughly familiar with the political situation there. In Turkey, Foroughi declared all powers are vested in

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the military which controls foreign relations as well as all other administration. Foroughi's remark concerning Nusrev Bey is interesting since the Foreign Minister is, as far as I know, entirely sincere and I do not believe that he would attempt to mislead a disinterested observer like myself.

In my previous despatches I have indicated that I do not regard Nusrev Bey as comparable to his predecessor. He seems also to be endeavoring to give the impression of importance and does not quite succeed. But as Nusrev Bey is reported to be a close friend of Kemal Pasha, a report which is confirmed by the British Legation, I am a little undecided what to think of Foroughi's remark.

When I called on him later, Nusrev Bey also said that there had been a great many talks on the frontier question but that the Persian Government, though accepting in principle, the cession of the Persian Ararat territory, had shown little real inclination to get the matter settled. He said that Turkey only wanted an area of five by eight kilometers on the Persian slope of Little Mount Ararat in order to control certain connecting mountain paths used by the Kurds and was willing to give in exchange Turkish territory in the south ten times as large. He had discussed every phase of the question with the Ministers of the Court and Foreign Affairs, supplementing his explanations with the use of maps, but with little apparent success.

In his conversation with me, Nusrev Bey endeavored to point out, as he had to the Persian Government, that

it

it was in the interest of both Turkey and Persia to suppress the Kurds and that Ararat was of no basic strategic importance to Persia in a frontier hundreds of miles long. But I remain unconvinced and daresay that as mentioned in my previous despatches, the Persian Government also takes an entirely different view from that suggested by the Turkish Ambassador. The latter appeared also to make a particular point of urging upon me the legal propriety of His Government's action in maintaining military outposts in the Little Ararat region. He pointed out that there had been lengthy discussions between his Government and Foroughi while the latter was Persian Ambassador at Ankara, that these discussions had resulted in the signature of a protocol regarding boundary questions and that when signing such protocol it was recognized that an agreement had not been reached with regard to three disputed areas. The forty square kilometers in the Little Ararat was, he said, one of these disputed areas and Turkey naturally claimed its right to operate as far as the eastern boundary thereof; it had already done so last summer, at the time of the 1930 Kurdish troubles, and it still maintained small military outposts in the area to control certain key paths used by the Kurds when travelling on the eastern slopes of Little Ararat.

The protocol to which Khavry Bey referred is, no doubt, the so-called Turco-Persian Frontier Agreement of April 9, 1929, referred to in current despatches from this Legation and from the Embassy at Istanbul. (Please see particularly Mr. Grew's despatches Nos. 721 and 758 of April 24 and June 3, 1930, and Mr. Williamson's despatch No. 693 of July 26 of the same year). As reported in Mr.

Grew's

Grew's second despatch; Article 1 of the Agreement described the frontier; Article 2 sets up a Mixed Commission to demarcate it; and Article 3 prescribes how the three "disputed zones", mentioned in Article 1, shall be allocated. The description in Article 1 indicates that the first of these disputed zones, or areas, is in what is generally spoken of as the Little Ararat region, the other two being to the southeast in the Mt. Sourava and Kutur regions.

Referring to the Tabriz-Trebizond road, Husrev Bey agreed that Persia was very anxious to have this opened but said that the Persians did not seem to comprehend that it involved a great expenditure for an improverished Turkey, especially were a modern port to be built at Trebizond. He referred nevertheless to a possible future Trebizond through which most of the trade of northern Persia might pass and expressed the opinion that his Government would not object to granting extensive "free port" privileges there.

While the Turkish Ambassador and Foroughi did not directly confirm my views, I am still inclined to the opinion contained in my despatch No.388 of February 19, 1931, that the opening of the Trebizond road looms larger in Persia's interest than any territory which she may receive in exchange for the Persian slopes of Little Mount Ararat.

The British Military Attaché said that according to the Turkish counselor, Djevad Bey, an offer of settlement made by Persia actually had been accepted by Turkey and that when the Persian Government brought up entirely new

points

points the patience of his Government was exhausted. I endeavored to obtain a confirmation of this from the Ambassador but he only went as far as to say that Persia had accepted in principle the relinquishment of Persian Ararat, a fact of which I have been aware for some time.

If, however, Djevad Bey's remark may be taken at its full face value, I should not be surprised to see increasing penetration of Persia by Turkish troops in the Ararat district until Persia gives in on this question.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

HH/J

CCH

Copy to Embassy, Istanbul.

Copy to E. I. C., Paris.

RECD

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPT. OF STATE DIV. COM. & REC.

Teheran, Persia,
April 4, 1931.

No. 492.

APR 30 31

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 4 1931
A-C/C
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

Confidential

FOR DEPTH

Copy to MTD + ONE

MAY 4 1931

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 1 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.9115/31

MAY 6 - 1931

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that negotiations between the Persian and Turkish Governments for the settlement of the frontier question in the vicinity of Little Mount Ararat are making no progress whatever. This information was given me by Foroughi, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

He said the controversy does not hang on the question of what Persia is offered in exchange for the territory surrounding Little Mount Ararat desired by Turkey to give it control over the troublesome Kurds of that section. Instead the stalemate, he declared, is the question of the territory which Persia would yield. Persia contends that Turkey is asking more territory than is required to

solve

solve the constantly recurring difficulties with the warlike Kurds.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs indicated to me that for the present he regards the outlook for an agreement as hopeless.

Mirza Ali Khan Mansour (formerly Mansour-ol-Molk), Minister of the Interior, has returned from Azerbaijan where it is believed he went to inquire into questions concerning the Turkish invasion.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

Copy to E.I.C., Paris.

4 Carbon Copies
Received F.P.
KW

1 copy detached for note.
KW

AM RECD

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, Persia,
April 20, 1931.

No. 554.

MAY 13 31

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
MAY 16 1931

Confidential

FOR DISTRIBUTION
MAY 18 1931
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 14 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.9115/32

FILED
MAY 20 1931

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Foroughi, I have the honor to report, informed me today that the Turco-Persian frontier question eventually will be settled but that the end of the negotiations is not in sight.

He amplified previous remarks to me that the Turkish Ambassador has no powers as reported in my despatch No. ~~491~~ 492 of April 4, 1931. No progress had been made, he said, because the Ambassador has to refer every issue, no matter how diminutive, to Ankara. This, he said, is causing many tedious delays. I remarked that my Government was interested in the question merely from the standpoint of peace, about which it was concerned at all times and for all of the world.

His

767.9115/31

His pleasure at the remark was very evident and led him to say that he would give me a memorandum of the controversy from the Persian viewpoint.

The Persian press, however, not quite so well-informed as some of us who are mere spectators, is constantly showing resentment of what appears from time to time in the Turkish press on the frontier dispute. The Persian press, probably ignorant of what has actually taken place in the vicinity of Little Mount Ararat, is almost vicious in its resentment of Turkish news reports of Kurdish activities on the Turco-Persian frontier or that Turkish troops have crossed the border, although to many observers it is known that Turkish troops have been camped on Persian territory for many months.

"The Turkish and the foreign press," editorially commented the SHAFAGH-iSORKH on April 13, "are again publishing false reports alleging that the Turkish Kurds pursued by Turkish troops escaped to Persian territory where they join hands with Persian Kurds and attack the Turkish frontiers.

"What is the object of the Turkish Press in insisting on the publication of false reports and delusion of public opinion? This point is by no means trivial. It would have been unimportant if the report had appeared only in one or two papers once or twice. This is something to which they keep devoting considerable space. Thus we have reason to become suspicious, and behooves the Persian Foreign Office to endeavor to solve the puzzle.

"Everybody knows that on the Perso-Turkish frontiers there are no Kurds to be found any longer. It is, therefore, inconceivable how the Turkish and Persian Kurds could join hands. The Persian Kurds are by no means troublesome

to

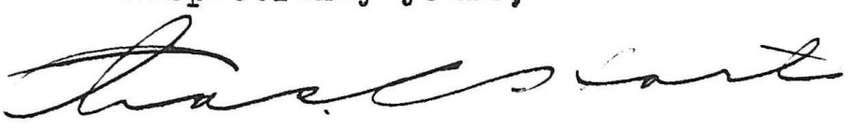
to Turkey. On the contrary the Turkish Kurds escaping to Persian territory are a source of constant trouble and considerable damage. When the Turkish Kurds escape to Persian territory we cannot remain spectators. Naturally we disarm them. When they show resistance they are attacked by our troops. Aside from this constant inconvenience experienced by our forces, the Kurdish fugitives devastate any village they pass through. They murder, plunder and do all kinds of mischief.

"The best evidence is the recent collision of our army in Azerbaijan with a gang of Kurdish fugitives from Turkey. The fugitives were routed and dispersed. Those of them who managed to escape spread over various villages where they raided and laid waste.

In view of the foregoing circumstances, we will have reason if we complain that we are experiencing trouble from the Turkish Kurds. The question has unfortunately assumed a reverse aspect, i.e., we are reticent in spite of all this inconvenience and the Turkish Press is complaining against Persian Kurds. There is a well-known proverb: 'If you do not keep after a debtor he may turn out a creditor.' This is why we believe there is something back of all this. The Government had better follow up this matter with a view to throwing light on the subject and origin of all this fallacious propaganda."

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.



Charles C. Hart.

Copy to American Embassy, Istanbul.

Copy in DCR for note.
G. W.

Received S.J.N.

AM RECD

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, Persia,
May 1, 1931.

No. 584.

JUN 6 31

FOR DISTRIBUTION - ... No

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 9 - 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.9115/33

FILED
JUN 10 1931

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

767.9115
note
767.91 1/.

I have the honor to transmit herewith a memorandum on the Turco-Persian frontier question which was handed me several days ago by Foroughi, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

This memorandum constitutes, so far as I know, the first open expression of the Persian Government with reference to this conflict which appears now to be far from amicable settlement. Some of its statements are rather confusing as at one point the Persian Government admits for the first time that Turkish troops invaded Persian territory. In one of the final paragraphs such an invasion is denied.

There

There is an evident lack of frankness with regard to the situation at the present time, because it is a well known fact that Turkish troops are now encamped on Persian territory in the vicinity of Agridagh (Little Ararat). I am grateful, however, to have this expression from the Persian Government which came as a result of a remark dropped by me to the Foreign Minister in which I ventured to say that the interest of my Government in this question grew solely out of our general interest in world amity.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

Enclosure:

1. Translation of Memorandum of Persian Government on Turco-Persian Frontier Question.

Copy to E.I.C., Paris.

Enclosure No. 1 with Despatch No.584
of May 1, 1931.

**TRANSLATION OF MEMORANDUM OF PERSIAN GOVERNMENT ON TURCO-PERSIAN FRONTIER QUESTION.**

During the spring and summer of last year when a movement started between the Turkish Kurds, especially in the Agridagh region, and gradually assumed a serious aspect, the Turkish Government requested the Persian Government to allow the Turkish troops at the time of their operations to pursue the Kurds in Persian territory whenever deemed necessary.

The reply given was that the penetration of Turkish troops into Persian territory was inconsistent with the right of sovereignty and independence of the Persian Government; that while we could not accept this request we were prepared to cooperate in every way with the Turkish forces; that we would not allow the Kurds to come to Persia from Turkish territory; that we would confront them if they should come; that we would not allow the Persian Kurds to invade Turkish territory or to join hands with the Turkish Kurds; that the Persian forces would thus cooperate with the Turkish forces and that the latter would not, therefore, need to pursue the Kurds in Persian territory.

Finally, the Turkish Government accepted this arrangement, and in order that the forces of both Governments might be able to cooperate effectively it was agreed that the Turks should inform the Persian Government whenever they desired to conduct operations against the Kurds. To render still fuller cooperation we agreed that each Government should commission an officer to the frontier forces of the other Government to serve as an intermediary and to furnish each other with the necessary information.

We

We did all this. We moved the Persian Kurds away from the borders. We prevented their connection with the Turkish Kurds. Although the Kurds were not insurgent and it was not advisable to take violent action against them and to offend them at a time when there were murmurs on all sides between the Kurds, nevertheless for the sake of the Turks we engaged in conflict with any of the Kurdish chiefs of whom we became suspicious. Clashes took place. Casualities were suffered on both sides. Certain Kurds were killed on Persian territory. Others were captured, imprisoned or banished. Persian cooperation with Turkish forces during the last year and at the time of operations in Agridagh was so obvious and effective that the Turks themselves acknowledged this and expressed appreciation.

In spite of all this at the time of operations they not only disregarded their word not to enter Persian territory but they impugned the honor of the Persian Government. They stationed military posts near the frontier* and the foot of Agridagh. In reply to the protest of the Persian Government, they said an error had been made and finally when they saw that they could not make such excuses they said that military operations warranted such action and they had no other course to take. This excuse was not admissible in consideration of the cooperation which the Persian forces were lending.

Last summer the Turkish Government said to the Persian Government that the Kurds had made the Agridagh mountain their place of refuge; that they came to Persian territory whenever the Turkish troops started operations against them; and that

the

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*Mr.Schayesteh explained in reply to my inquiry that by the words "near the frontier" "on the Persian territory" is implied.

the Turkish forces could not pursue them; that their operations were thus neutralized. They requested the Persian Government to cede to the Turkish Government the Little Agridagh (Ararat) region which belongs to the Persian Government, offering in return a tract of land on the other borders equivalent to what they asked.

They had made the same representations several years ago and the Persian Government had given a negative reply. Inasmuch as they insisted this time, holding it prodigiously important for their interests, although Agridagh is of paramount importance for the Persian Government itself, in the interest of amity with Turkey and to show good intentions, the Persian Government accepted this exchange proposition in principle, but did not deem it necessary to give to Turkey all of the land they were asking for.

In this connection we submitted a proposal to the Turks in which we took into consideration our own interests as much as possible and at the same time the needs of the Turks. In return for the Agridagh region we proposed that since all the border lines between the two countries are based on the watersheds of the mountains, and inasmuch as this principle has not been observed in two points in the delimination of the Turco-Persian frontiers, namely, in the Kotur (Qutur) area and the Bajargueh (Bahirka) valley, this principle be observed in the said two points now that we are changing the frontier in Agridagh and the watersheds be determined as the border lines. This operation involved the cession of certain lands in those two regions to the Persian Government.

This proposal of the Persian Government is entirely logical and is based on the principle that the frontier

line

line between the two countries should be natural everywhere and according to geographical exigencies. Another great advantage it has is that all our frontier disputes with Turkey may thus be settled and both sides relieved from trouble.

The Turkish Government does not consider the extent of land that we are prepared to cede as sufficient. On the other hand, they consider what we ask in return to be excessive. Now we are waiting for them to submit their definitive proposal in order that the negotiations may be followed up.

Latterly the Kurds have again made mutinous movements in the Turkish territory near the Persian borders. They came to Persian territory and encountered the Persian forces and were forced to return. The Turkish forces also engaged in conflict with them.

As to the rumors current that the Turkish forces have invaded the Persian territory or that they have collided with the Persian troops, they are untrue.

The Turkish Press still occasionally carries reports that in Persia the Kurds are helped against Turkey. These reports are entirely unfounded and the basis and object of these reports are not known.

**********

AM RECD

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIV. COM. & REC

Teheran, Persia,
July 8, 1931.

AUG 13 31

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
No. 718
AUG 17 1931
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FOR DISTRIBUTION

AUG 18 1931

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 13 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.9115/34

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit as an enclosure 1/. a translation of an interview on the Perso-Turkish frontier troubles credited to Colonel Kazem Khan Sayyah, head of the Frontier Security Commission on the Perso- Turkish boundary where so many clashes have occurred in the last year between warlike Kurds and Turkish and Persian troops.

FILED
AUG 24 1931

The statement carries the usual Persian evasion of facts in the beginning but becomes interesting immediately thereafter. "Nothing has taken place within my field worth mentioning," Colonel Sayyah says as a

preface

preface to his interview, and then immediately proceeds to show that there has been hardly a peaceful moment on the frontier since early spring.

Many times in the last weeks I have inquired of Persian Government officials regarding the situation in the vicinity of Little Mount Ararat. The answer always has been the same—complete tranquility with no possible likelihood of a rising. Now comes the head of the Frontier Commission to enumerate any number of skirmishes that have taken place in which the Kurds have been engaged both by Turkish and Persian troops.

The Sayyah interview is the usual Persian attempt to place all blame on the Turks. It will be noted that he tries at one place to show that the Turks have been negligent in protecting the frontier and at another that they have purposely held aloof from attacking the Kurds because of a desire to curry favor with them. To some extent I think this is true of both sides. Both Turks and Persians, I would say, would much prefer not to be compelled to deal too violently with those strong tribesmen who appear to have no fear of battle.

I find the interview principally of interest for its admissions, to which I have referred, of the activities which have been taking place in a region always officially reported to be tranquil.

In analyzing the detailed statement of Colonel Sayyah, sight must never be lost of the fact that he is a Persian. Discounts and many of them, must therefore be applied. Persians never lose a battle. Every bout is a victory, according to the official communique, but

if it can be avoided no communique is issued in such cases. If all the Persian dead picked up from the battle-field were found to have bullets in their backs I have no doubt it could be shown that the Persian soldiers were inflicting dire punishment on the enemy while flee-ing, kicking their pursuers in the stomachs with their heels, perhaps, or something like that.

I perceive that even today the official representa-tive in Persia of a foreign government could make him-self immediately persona non grata by unguarded reference to the invasion of Alexander the Great as a victorious march. No Persian was ever admittedly defeated unless it were by another Persian enjoying wider favor in the country.

Meanwhile no progress is apparent in the move to settle the frontier differences between Persia and Turkey. And Colonel Sayyah's criticism of a Government with which he asserts Persia is cooperating to put down the frontier troubles cannot make the settlement easier. I do give him credit, however, for making it just a little clearer as to what Turkey is asking from Persia. This he de-scribes as a short passage across Persian territory, which looks much like a reasonable demand. But I have always understood from disinterested observers that Turkey's demand has from the beginning been a reasonable one.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

Enclosure:

1. Translation of an interview with Colonel Kazem Khan Sayyah.

Copy to American Embassy, Constantinople.
Copy to E.I.C., Paris.

Enclosure No. 1 with Despatch
No. 718, of July 8, 1931.

Translation of Purported Interview with Colonel Kazem Khan Sayyah, Head of Perso-Turkish Frontier Commission, Published in IRAN of July 7, 1931.

I have just arrived from Azerbaijan, remarked Colonel Sayyah, and will return in a few days after receiving necessary instructions. I am surprised to note how capable the people of Teheran are in fabricating unsound news. I, therefore, deny all the reports rife in this city in regard to alleged happenings in Azerbaijan, and I must say that nothing has taken place within my field worthy of mentioning. The Persian Government immediately responded to the call of the Turkish Government when last year the latter decided to suppress the Ararat insurgents, and requested the Persian Government to lend military co-operation. The Persian troops blocked the eastern roads to Ararat starting from Qezel Nish and passing through the Qozlou hills. Furthermore in order to prevent the Persian Kurds from joining hands with Turkish Kurds for ethnological reasons, the northwestern Division of the Persian Army was ordered to shift all the Persian Kurds from the Persian borders into the interior of the country....In executing the above orders the Persian Government forces had to resort to arms and to suffer losses in lives because the Persian Kurds, excited by a feeling of ethnological sympathy, would not frequently submit without violence.

The case of Kaled Aqa Jelali serves as best evidence. He was loath to be sent away from the border and to quit co-operating with Turkish Kurds who were ravaging Danalou region. He, therefore, fought the Persian forces but was defeated and fled with Turkish Kurds to Turkish territory. It is to be regretted that in spite of the fact that the insurgents were being prosecuted in the interest of Turkey, the commander of Turkish troops gave asylum to the fugitive Kaled Aqa with all his clan consisting of 200 families and 5,000 livestocks to live in Bouralan....The Persian forces none the less lent the Turkish troops such cooperation as was appreciated by commanders of the Turkish forces until the Ararat insurgents were dispersed.

Asked whether in his opinion the Ararat disturbances will longer recur and whether the victory of the Persian and Turkish troops is definitive, Colonel Sayyah replied in the following sense:

If

If the scheme in mind is fully enforced the Ararat trouble may be considered as ended. By this scheme I mean the following:

(1) The Turkish Government has decided to keep the Ararat zone always devoid of population and to prevent any of the Kurdish tribes to live in that area lest seditious elements may cause another incident.

(2) The Persian Government in its turn is shifting the inhabitants of the frontier farther back into the interior of the country and does not allow the Persian Kurds to approach the borders.

(3) Close cooperation between both Governments.

(4) In order to have domination over Agridagh (Ararat) the Turkish Government proposed an exchange of lands in that region with the Persian Government. As we have been told, the Turkish Government asked for a passage in Persian territory.across the Qozlou valley to Agridagh (Ararat), a distance of 6 or 7 kilometers from the Turkish border on the Persian side. In return it agreed to cede another piece of land. The Persian Government in principle concurred and, pending the termination of negotiations, the passage is at present being patrolled by both the Persian and Turkish troops. It goes without saying that the Persian Government will give definite countenance only when the Turkish expectations are limited to the passage in question and the mountain cliffs essential for protecting such passage, and also when the land offered in return is adequate. Otherwise it is not believed that the Persian Government will acquiesce in an exchange of territory.

In reply to inquiry regarding a rumor that a number of Ararat insurgents have fled to Persian territory where they are said to be devastating and commiting outrages, the Colonel furnished the following explanations:

You doubtless know that after the termination of trouble in Ararat and the dispersion of insurgents, some of the ringleaders surrendered to the Persian army and are now in Persia under custody. Others were dispersed and were it not because of the vigilence of our forces they would have by this time reassembled and regained strength. When the Ararat trouble was ended the Persian Army received a report to the effect that insurgents had fled to Persian territory and had centralized at Aq Goul, Qoum and Qashlaq Moussa. The circumstances were reported to the Turkish troops who were also notified of the

necessity

necessity to cooperate in the suppression of the fugitive mutineers.

The Persian forces encountered the outlaws on March 20, 1931, and drove them back to the Turkish frontier. If that frontier had been properly guarded by the Turks at that time the outlaws would not have crossed the border into Turkey, but would have been annihilated. The insurgents succeeded in escaping and concealing themselves in Gorji Bulagh and the surrounding winter resorts. Towards the end of April, 1931, they were reinforced by the local Kurds and led a night attack against the military post at Kara Hassan.

In this fight one regular was killed and several wounded. The recalcitrants invaded the Persian territory and sought refuge in the mountains. During the month of May reinforcements were sent and Turkish cooperation was requested. Before the Turkish forces had a chance to lend assistance the outlaws were dispersed on May 27 after suffering heavy losses. They fled to winter resorts in Pancharlou on the Araxes River.

On June 1 it was reported that a number of the insurgents had been seen in Chaldoran. A detachment was immediately despatched to Karaine (Kara-Aineh) and again the commander of Turkish forces was informed that Turkish cooperation was needed. The commander replied that the squadron at Bayezid had been furnished with appropriate instructions to be on guard on the border line on June 8. On that day the Persian forces attacked the insurgents and chased them as far as the Turkish border where unfortunately there was no Turkish garrison and consequently the insurgents fled. On June 9 they occupied the southern posts at Sheikh Salou (spelling uncertain). A conflict ensued. Our forces occupied Dehnavara and the outlaws were driven to the southern hills in the environs of Yekmaleh. It is reported that they are now in Zavieh in Turkish territory.

In reply to the question as to the cause of the Turkish policy of non-aggression towards the Kurdish insurgents, Colonel Sayyah said:

In so far as we know the Turkish frontier officials are, contrary to the past, endeavoring to curry favor with the Kurdish chiefs and are no longer causing them trouble. In this manner they desire to maintain security and frustrate future Kurdish insurrection. As I said it was as a result of Persian cooperation with the Turks that the Ararat insurgents invaded Persian territory causing us considerable loss of life and property. We had, therefore, reason to expect no kindness towards the insurgents on the part

of Turkey. However, since the real object is to establish security and tranquility in that region and to put an end to Kurdish controversy with our neighboring Government, Turkey, we will be happy to learn that the Turkish Government succeds in warming itself into the confidence of the Kurds and in winning their hearts and thus bringing them within bounds. At the same time it is to be hoped that they will be settled on regions distant from the border line and due care will be taken that they should not encroach upon Persian territory and cause losses to the inhabitants of villages in Persia.

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AM RECD

DEPT. OF STATE DIV. COM. & REC.

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, Persia,
July 22, 1931.

No. 742.

AUG 26 31

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 29 1931
A-C/C
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 27 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK Yes No
To
Copy to M.I.D. + O.N.I.

767.9115/35

The Honorable

AUG 31 1931

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

Note 891.4016 Kurds

Further confirmation of the facts and deductions regarding sporadic Kurdish troubles in Persian Azerbaijan, as recounted and set forth in my despatch No. 718, of July 8, 1931, has been obtained from two members of the faculty of the American College at Teheran, just returned from a fortnight's visit to Tabriz, Urumia (Razaieh), Senna and Kermanshah, I have the honor to report.

767.9115/34

The general opinion of foreign residents in these cities, they explain, is that these disturbances are the natural concomitant of an endeavor made by the Persian

FILED SEP 2 1931

authorities

authorities during the last spring and summer months to put into effect a program of transferring to interior points the Kurdish population of the districts lying on the Persian side of the Turco-Persian frontier.

Considerable activity, it was added, had been shown along this line during the last season especially by the military commanders at Tabriz, Rezaieh, Soujboulak, and Sakiz. Such activity was particularly marked in the Maku region to the east of Little Ararat. The affected Kurds had most naturally objected. The result was constant friction and frequent skirmishes of the character reported in my abovementioned despatch. The arrival from Maku or Khoi of wounded Persian soldiers had been a common happening at the American hospitals at Tabriz and Urumia.

The most serious incident of this nature known thus far to have occurred during the present season was recounted to me by my American informants as follows:

> Something more than a month ago orders were sent by the military authorities at Tabriz, through the commander of the army post at Maku, to the inhabitants of a group of small Kurdish villages lying between the latter place and the border that on a certain date a week or so later they should be ready to move, bag and baggage, live stock and household possessions, to a prepared interior district. Shortly prior to the date indicated a platoon of troops visiting these villages found that most of the men and a considerable proportion of the women and children had cleared out. Those remaining apparently sent word of this visit to

the fleeing villagers. And the fighting men amongst the latter, fearing pursuit by the more mobile Persian troops, unhampered by women and and other household paraphernalia, determined to take the aggressive. They therefore on the following evening made a surprise attack on the Maku military post where some five hundred Persian troops were garrisoned. The attack was successful, the garrison practically wiped out. The attacking Kurds rejoined their families, augmented by the remaining villagers, and the whole group reached and crossed the Turkish frontier without molestation."

I may perhaps add, in conclusion that the general truth of the foregoing account has been confirmed by British Oriental Counsellor Havard, and that Captain David, French Military Attaché, while holding to his earlier expressed opinion that the Government has the Kurdish situation generally well in hand, says that his most recent information is to the effect that sporadic troubles of this nature appear to be somewhat on the increase.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

Copy to E.I.C., Paris.

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DEPT. OF STATE
DIV. COM. & REC.

NE

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, Persia,
August 7, 1931.

No. 769.

SEP 3 31

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP - 3 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.9115/36

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The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Referring to my current series of despatches on the subject of Turco-Persian negotiations for the settlement of outstanding boundary questions between the two countries, I have the honor to report that the Turkish Ambassador at this post appears, for the first time, to anticipate a successful outcome of the negotiations.

For the better part of the last month, the Ambassador, accompanied by his Counselor and Military Attaché, has been negotiating with the Persian Minister for Foreign Affairs and technical assistants furnished by the Persian Ministry of War.

Shortly

Shortly after the beginning of the re-opened negotiations, the Ambassador's comment was as pessimistic as that which characterized his comments on the earlier negotiations. He seemed particularly upset that, on three mornings of each week, he was required to leave his cool summer residence at Shimran and discuss in the hot sultry halls of the Foreign Office questions which, on the basis of his former experience, he saw little hope of settling.

Now, however, thanks, he says, largely to the reasonable attitude of the Persian technical advisers, the whole question appears to be well on the road to settlement. Except on three minor matters only, the Ambassador explains, matters which his instructions do not cover, agreement has been reached. He feels on the whole that Ankara can well yield on these three points. He has so recommended to his Government and is now awaiting further instructions. If Ankara accepts he should be able, he says, immediately to sign an agreement which finally will dispose of this long-standing source of friction between the two countries.

I have not pressed the Ambassador for details as to the three minor matters still outstanding. I take it, however, from the nature of his references thereto, that they concern only minor questions of boundary delimitation, presumably affecting the two southern disputed sectors of the boundary described as "disputed zones" in the Turco-Persian Boundary Convention of April 9, 1929 (see my despatch No. 444, of March 17, 1931). 767.91/59

I infer that the question of the delimitation of the

northern

northernmost of the three "disputed zones," i.e. that of the Agridagh or Little Ârarat region, has been settled to the Ambassador's satisfaction. This means, of course, that the Turkish Government's views with respect thereto have been accepted.

The Ambassador, as the Department is aware, had, before his appointment to the Turkish diplomatic service, an eminently successful military career. It is, I perceive, his feeling that the success of the current negotiations may be attributed largely to the fact that, in conducting them, he has been able to talk as one army officer to another and not as a foreign diplomatic representative endeavoring to force a comatose Persian Foreign Office into action.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

File No. 715.

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GW/J

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PM RECD

DEPT. OF STATE DIV. COM. & REC

**LEGATION OF THE**
**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Teheran, Persia,

August 11, 1931.

No. 791.

SEP 14 31

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SEP 14 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK

| | Yes | No |
|---|---|---|
| To be held In U. S. A. | | ✓ |

767.9115/37

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Evidence that all is not quiet on the Turco-Persian frontier as has been so often asserted by the Persian Government, I have the honor to report, came to light in the following significant paragraph which appeared in a Teheran newspaper:

FILED
SEP 21 1931

"Owing to the martyrdom of Colonel Kalb-Ali Khan Nakhtchevan, a memorial service will be held in the Sepahsalar Mosque Tuesday morning (August 4) by Mirza Abdol Hossain Khan Diba, Chief Accountant of the Court, and the relations of the deceased."

The

The ceremony mentioned is a religious service held by the Moslems at the bier of the dead. Colonel Nakhtchevan has been in command of a brigade in Azerbaijan ever since the clashes between the Kurds on the one hand and the Persians and Turks on the other began almost a year and a half ago.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

File No. 715.

Copy to E.I.C., Paris.

CCH/J

RECD

A/E

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, Persia,
October 6, 1931.

No. 891.

OCT 28 31

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
HSV
Oct 28 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

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FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHE[illegible] No
To [illegible]
In U. S. A. [illegible]

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

With the departure last week of the Turkish Ambassador for Ankara on leave of absence, there has come to an end, I venture to believe, another phase of Turco-Persian negotiations for the settlement of outstanding boundary questions between the two countries.

The proximate cause for the reopening of this last phase of these long standing negotiations was to be found in the Kurdish trouble of the summer of 1930. Their progress has been reported in a series of despatches extending over the past year.

FILED
NOV. 10, 1931

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In the last of these despatches, No. 769, of August 7, 1931, I reported a conversation with Husrev Bey, Turkish Ambassador, in which he gave clearly the impression that he was well pleased with the results of his representations; that, due largely to the reasonable attitude of the military advisers of both governments, he anticipated for the first time a successful outcome of the negotiations.

It was added that except on three minor matters, ones which the Ambassador's instructions did not cover, agreement had been reached. Husrev Bey's own view was expressed that Ankara might well yield on these three points and that, should it do so, he would be able immediately to sign the agreement which "finally would dispose of this longstanding source of friction between the two governments."

Later informal conversations with the Ambassador confirmed the information thus reported. But, as the time went on and no reply was received from his Government, he began to take the attitude that, from the point of view of the technical military experts, a thorough study of the question had been made; that, though these experts had not agreed, they had come as near to agreement as military tacticians, each with his country's best interests in mind, could be expected to come; and that final settlement should be considered to "rest with the politicians."

For one or the other side to yield, the Ambassador said, would entail, from the military point of view, but little tactical loss. The advantage to both

countries

countries of a final settlement was obvious. Either a political compromise should be reached or one side should yield. He would, he added, await instructions from Ankara. If they were favorable to a settlement he would remain at Teheran to conduct further discussions. If not, he would depart on a short leave of absence.

If, therefore, no new factor has been introduced into the situation, and I have no reason to hold such a supposition, Husrev Bey's departure signifies that neither Ankara or Teheran has seen fit to yield to the other's point of view. His departure was sudden. Unfortunately no opportunity was afforded for further discussion.

As to the policies of the two governments in the matter, the following comment may be found of interest. I omit from my considerations any question of a propensity on the part of either to further orientally pazarlik on the question at issue between them. As between them it would seem that that phase of their negotiations has by now been generally, if not wholly, disposed of.

I have gathered the impression--it is not more, and I should be pleased could it be verified by our Embassy at Istanbul--that Turkey is desirous of reaching a fair agreement, that in this it is motivated by an honest desire to settle this long outstanding dispute. That an agreement would be to its interest also is clear. An unsettled border renders more difficult the handling of its Kurdish problem.

Most of this I have said before and in greater detail. But, on the question of Persia's interest in effecting a settlement, a new angle of approach seems worthy of mention. This new angle, if new it is, was suggested by Count Schulenburg, German Minister, a day or so before his recent departure for his new post at Bucharest. He expressed his though somewhat as follows:

The Turco-Persian frontier was really settled in 1913 between Russia, Great Britain, Persia and the former Ottoman Empire. The two principal powers played, of course, the principal role in that settlement. But the Persian Medjliss never ratified it. Although,under that agreement, the actual boundary was delimited, still de jure there is some argument that it is not and never has been effective as regards Persia.

The Persians have not yet come out into the open and taken such a position. They could hardly do so after such a long lapse of time. Certainly not, unless some new factor were introduced into the situation.

Herein lies Persia's interest in affecting a settlement with Turkey which will recognize a boundary different from that delimited in 1913-1914. No reference will be made to the old agreement. And the fact that no such reference is made will be held to constitute a recognition of the Persian position regarding the noneffect of that agreement as regards its legal position.

Now, as to why Persia should want to take that position. A part of the Perso-Ottoman boundary delimited before the War is today the Perso-Iraq frontier. There lie the so-called Transferred Territories--in Iraq. And Iraq is a British interest. If, therefore, Persia signs

its

its agreement with Turkey and announces its position, it will imply at least a de jure claim to the Transferred Territories. In those Territories the Anglo-Persian Oil Company is, through its subsidiary the Khanikin Oil Company, now producing oil for the Iraq market.

Persia will not for a moment expect that any claim it may make for the return of the Transferred Territories will be recognized by Great Britain. But by advancing such a claim, even with the ultimate intention of relinquishing it, Persia will have one more bargaining point in future political negotiations with the British. It was an even more ridiculous contention which Persia advanced in 1929 of sovereignty over the Bahrein Islands, but that claim clouded Anglo-Persian relations for some time.

The whole argument may strike one as exaggerated and too greatly involved even for traditional Persian diplomacy at the zenith of its propensity for intrigue. But in it there is reason to believe that Persia sees a valid reason for concluding the present frontier negotiations with Turkey, a specific advantage to be gained therefrom.

Personally, I have no reason to accept the conclusion reached in this long and somewhat involved exposé of my former German colleague, much as I admire his intelligence and recognize that, from his long experience at this post, his views are those of one who speaks with authority. And the fact that no Turco-Persian agreement has been reached would seem to suggest that his argument

is speculative rather than practical in character. I nevertheless found it interesting, if only as a lesson in what I venture to call theoretical oriental diplomacy. As such the Department may, I trust, also find it of interest.

Since drafting the foregoing, I learn from British Oriental Secretary Havard that a report, not from London but in which he tends to place some credence, has come to the British Legation that Husrev Bey, following his leave of absence, is to be appointed Turkish Ambassador at London.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

File No. 715.
GW/J

Copy to E.I.C., Paris.
Copy to American Embassy, Istanbul.
Copy to American Legation, Baghdad.

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ankara, October 30, 1931.

No. 1361

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To Field
In U. S. A

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
File
NOV 18 1931
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.9115/39

767.9115 note

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

The Turkish Ambassador to Persia, Husrev Bey, upon his return to Ankara, issued a statement to the press to the effect that the negotiations surrounding the delimitation of the Turco-Persian frontier had been brought to a successful conclusion. Newspaper articles intimated that he would soon return to Teheran to sign a formal agreement which would bring this long-standing dispute to a close.

FILED NOV 21 1931

In commenting upon this press notice to a member of my staff, Sadek Khan Sadek, the Persian Ambassador to Turkey, confirmed the report that the negotiations had practically been concluded. There was still some objection by the Persian general staff to ceding both Little and Great

Ararat

Ararat to Turkey because this left the whole north-western frontier entirely defenseless. The Ambassador intimated, however, that the objections of the Military would be overruled in this instance, and that the boundary dispute would finally be settled in a short time.

Sadek Khan continued by saying that Husrev Bey would not return to Persia. The definite impression was gathered from the Persian Ambassador's veiled remarks that Husrev Bey had not been popular in Teheran and that his recall was due to pressure from the Persian Foreign Office. A Chargé d'Affaires, he said, is being sent to replace Husrev Bey, and it is this new man who will sign the boundary agreement. Sadek Khan attributed Husrev Bey's press statement to his desire to "save face".

701.6791

The foregoing is supplemental to the information on this subject submitted by the American Minister at Teheran, with particular reference to his despatch No. 891 of October 6, 1931.

Respectfully yours,

Joseph C. Grew.

DW/rs
710

Copy sent to American Legation, Teheran.
" " " E. I. C. Paris.

AM RECD

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Istanbul, January 12, 1932.

No 1407

DEPT. OF STATE DIV. COM. & REC.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 3 1932
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

FEB 2 32

DIVISION OF
EASTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
FEB 5 - 1932
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 5 - 1932
A-C/C
SECRETARY OF STATE

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To the Field
In U. S. A.
M.I.D. (confidential)

767.9115
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867.154
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STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

FEB 8 1932

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Tevfik Rüştü Bey, the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, left Ankara on January 4, 1932, for Teheran, going by way of Istanbul and the Caucasus. He is accompanied by Husrev Bey, Turkish Ambassador to Persia, and by five aides. It is announced that he will sign a frontier agreement with Persia which provides for the session to Turkey of the slopes of Little Mount Ararat and of the Aybey range, in return for a strip of territory south of the Bayir pass between Chenlemerk in Turkey and the important Persian town of Urumia. As he passed through Istanbul, Tevfik Rüştü Bey told me that complete agreement had been reached

with

FEB 15 1932

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with the Persians on every point at issue, with one minor exception which he feels confident he can settle when he arrives in Teheran. It would thus appear that the long negotiations surrounding the question of the Turko-Persian frontier had entered into their final phase and that a definitive convention may soon be concluded.

The press also mentions as a probable subject of discussion the reopening of the Tabriz-Trebizond road. Strictly speaking, this historic route has never been closed, but traffic on it has been limited to occasional caravans and to a very few adventurous automobilists. In order to escape from the economic domination of Russia, the North Persians are most anxious that the road be policed and made practicable to automotive transportation, thereby providing a secure outlet for their produce to the Black Sea. The Turks on their part would welcome a traffic which would increase the importance of Trebizond's trade. From vague references in the press it is learned that the Turks have been working on the road from Trebizond to Bayazid, and it is believed that the Persians have also made some attempt to surface the road from Tabriz to Maku. As a result of the military operations in 1930 and 1931 against the Kurdish tribes on both sides of the border, the problem of providing safe transportation should be materially facilitated. It would therefore seem to be not improbable that some agreement might be negotiated at Teheran providing for the intensification of trade relations along this natural route. This supposition was given further weight by a remark dropped by Husrev Bey to the effect that once

the

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the frontier question had been disposed of, the Tabriz-Trebizond road was the next problem to be attacked.

But there may be a fly in the ointment. For years Russia, by virtue of its geographical position, has been able to dominate North Persia by controlling the outlet for its produce. All attempts in the past to open the Tabriz-Trebizond road have been frustrated. The Mosul-Rowanduz-Urumia road has not yet been opened although both Persia and Iraq decided four years ago to construct this useful trade route. It may be pure imagination, but is it not possible that the Russians have found means to prevent the construction of outlets from that part of Persia which it considers within its "sphere of influence", and that they will also find means to block this latest attempt at economic cooperation? There come vague but persistent reports from the eastern frontiers of Turkey to the effect that there is constant friction between Persia, Iraq and Turkey; the Kurdish tribes are constantly embroiling the one with the others. It is not too much to suppose that the Russians are finding this a convenient method by which to retain their hereditary control over Persian Azerbaijan.

761.91

Respectfully yours,

Joseph C. Grew.

COPY SENT E. I. C. PARIS

Copy sent to American Legation, Teheran.

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DW:ON

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 867.9111/342 FOR Report #-

FROM Istanbul ( Allen ) DATED Jan.13,1932
TO NAME

1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: Turkish-Persian frontier.
Press announcement that a protocol of rectification of - will be signed shortly in the Persian capital. Substance of provisions of the protocol.

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Persia.

The press announced on December 23 that the Minister of Foreign Affairs was about to go to Teheran accompanied by the Turkish Minister to Persia. The following day the MILLIYET explained that as a result of negotiations lasting more than a year ( protocols of rectification of frontier was practically in final form and would be shortly signed in the Persian capital. ) This protocol provided, it was said, that Persia should cede the totally arid Little Ararat and Ay Bey mountains to Turkey in exchange for several important villages and a strip of very fertile territory near Baǧirke. Provision was also being made, it was added for the commercial relatipns between the two countries. On January 5 the Foreign Minister arrived at Istanbul, and, preparatory to embarking for Batum on January 9, began hobnobbing with members of the diplomatic corps, a recreation of which he is obviously extremely fond. In the latter connection, the following story comes from what seems to be a good source: Salih Bey was calling on the Gazi when the Minister of Foreign Affairs was announced. The latter came in and in a spirit of boyish enthusiasm stated that he came to report that in the course of a diplomatic reception he had found one of the foreign ambassadors standing lost in thought contemplating the bust of the Gazi in the diplomatic anteroom at the foreign ministry. Eventually the Minister went his way and no sooner was he out of sight than the Gazi and Salih Bey simultaneously burst

Foreign Minister En Route to Teheran

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PM RECD

DEPT. OF STATE DIV. COM. & REC

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, Persia,
January 6, 1932.

No. 1004.

FEB 18 32

FOR DISTRIBUTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 19 1932
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.9115

767.9115/42

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The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

FEB 23 1932

Sir:

I have the honor to report that Tewfik Rushdi Bey, Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, is to visit Persia during the current month. To quote from the semi-official Teheran newspaper IRAN, "the visit is for the purpose of conveying the friendly sentiments of the Turkish Government and people and for the conclusion of pourparlers on the disputed (Turko-Persian) frontier question.

It is now reported that Tewfik Rushdi Bey left Ankara on January 4, to proceed via the Caucasus-Caspian

route

route and arrive a week later at the Persian Caspian port of Pahlevi, one day's motor journey from the capital. He will be accompanied by Husrev Bey, Turkish Ambassador to Persia, who since September, last, has been on extended leave of absence in Turkey. It is not anticipated that the visit will extend beyond a week or ten days as Tewfik Rushdi Bey is to represent his country at the Disarmament Conference which meets in Geneva on February 2.

To this distinguished statesman, who has played so effective a part in the post-war diplomatic history of the Near East, a visit such as the present, of combined courtesy and negotiation, will of course be no novel experience. But in Persia, or at least by the Persian press, the forthcoming visit is hailed, in editorials remarkably free from parti pris, as a notable departure from the diplomacy of the past and as an event of the highest political importance--as, in a sense, it may well prove to be.

"It demonstrates the good will of the Turkish authorities," says the editor of SHAFAQ-i-SORKH, "and we are indeed gratified to note that the two Foreign Ministers are old friends, His Highness Foroughi having served (1927) as Persian Ambassador at Ankara. We sincerely hope that they will succeed in straightening out this (frontier) question in a mutually satisfactory manner." The IRAN adds its word to the effect that "negotiations through ordinary channels" have proceeded to the point where the forthcoming meeting of Foreign Ministers offers every promise of success. The KOUSHESH writes in the same vein. And the ETTELLA'AT and TADJADDOD-i-IRAN "rejoice that the frontier dispute will thus be settled."

In

In short, Tewfik Rushdi Bey has a "good press" and, from the comments I hear in Persian official circles, a better than fair chance of success in the forthcoming negotiations for a settlement of this long outstanding frontier question which has so often clouded and even seriously endangered the relations between Turkey and Persia.

For example, from Ghaffar Khan Djelal, Chief of the British Section of the Persian Foreign Office, to whom I put the proposition that it seemed almost too much to expect that, after years of wrangling, the frontier question should be settled in the course of a week's visit. I received the following reply: "Years! Why it is centuries, or 300 years anyway. And many people ask: Why should we settle it now? But now we do want to settle it and so does Turkey. And conditions are today very different from what they were in the past. Of course they have asked too much, and the Shah will not give up anything that endangers the country. I mean that some strategic points they wanted we cannot cede. But I think now that question too can be arranged."

By "they", Djelal meant, I infer, not only the Turks in general but also in particular Ambassador Husrev Bey and his immediate predecessors; and, with others, he now appears to believe that Tewfik Rushdi Bey is coming to Teheran prepared to compromise in a manner acceptable to the Persian thesis. In particular it is suggested that the Persian Government has now convinced Ankara that it too is prepared to use armed force to keep the border Kurds in

order

order and otherwise to implement a common policy of settlement of the tribes and, as the case may be, their Persification or Turkification. The recent strong action taken against the southern Kurdish chieftain Djafar Sultan and his dissident tribesmen is cited by my Persian informants as a case in point (Despatch No. 1005 of January 7, 1931). 891.4016 Kurds/5

The Persians, in their turn, appear to be willing to meet more nearly the Turkish Government's position regarding its need for control of the Little Ararat region and to reduce their counter demands (please see particularly my despatches Nos. 769 and 891 of August 7 and October 6, 1931). 767.9111/36 /38 This willingness appears to be based in large measure on a growing confidence in the prowess of the Persian army. That being the case, certain disputed heights in the Little Ararat region lose much of the importance till now given them by the Persian negotiations.

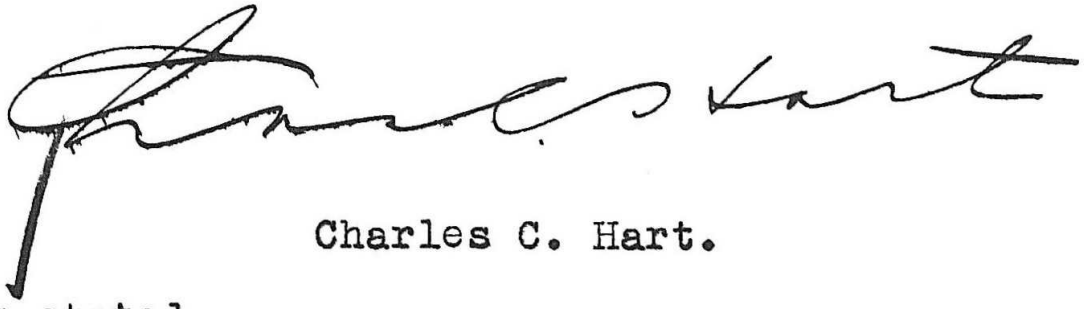
My colleagues, I may add, look forward with some hope to seeing the Turkish Foreign Minister succeed in attaining this principal object of his mission or at least to laying a sound foundation for its attainment. However, in the continuing absence of Teymourtache, Minister of the Court, who is now not expected to return from Europe before the end of the month, there is general doubt, in which I concur, whether Tewfik Rushdi Bey will succeed during his visit in leading the Persian Government to sign on the dotted line.

/ In conclusion, I enclose, as a matter of record and of possible interest, a translation of the report of an interview on the objects of the forthcoming visit given

by

by Numan Tahir Bey, Turkish Chargé d'Affaires, to a representative of the local newspaper SHAFAQ-i-SORKH and published, with, I learn, the former's consent, in the January 4 issue of that paper.

Respectfully yours,



Charles C. Hart.

Enclosure: 1, as stated.

Copy to E.I.C., Paris.

File No. 715.

GW/PE

TRANSLATION.

Enclosure No. 1,
Despatch No. 1004.

Interview with Turkish Chargé d'Affaires.

Subject: Prospective Visit of Tewfik Rushdi Bey.

From the SHAFAQ-i-SORKH of January 4, 1932.

"The trip of His Excellency Dr. Tewfik Rushdi Bey to Persia is one of the emblems of the sincerity and happy relations existing between the Turkish and Persian people," replied the Turkish Chargé d'Affaires to a question by our special correspondent.

Numan Tahir Bey then continued: "The main object of the Turkish Government is to renew and strengthen the ties of friendly and neighborly relations which have existed in a satisfactory manner between the two countries since ancient times. During his stay in Teheran the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs intends to take up many questions involving the common interests of both Governments; and, in view of the mutual feeling of friendship and cordiality, it is believed that his negotiations will involve important benefits.

"As a matter of fact this trip should be construed this way: Inasmuch as the Turkish Government is following a firm and consistent pacific policy of good understanding with all its neighbors, and inasmuch as it desires to strengthen the bonds of friendship with its sincere friend and real brother, the Persian nation, this trip will promote such relations and will revive the spirit of good will and unity between the two people.

"The Turkish people view with a feeling of sympathy the progressive efforts of the Persian people and Government towards modernization. The Turkish people admire and congratulate the noble people of Persia on the indefatigable activity of its Government for effecting improvements in accordance with modern standards and on the rapid strides that the country is taking on the road to progress and civilization."

Then, asked about the previous career and studies of Tewfik Rushdi Bey, the Turkish Chargé furnished the following information: "His Excellency is a Doctor of Medicine. In 1908 and after the proclamation of the Constitution in the Ottoman Empire he rendered important services towards the liberty of his country. He directed the Health Department during the World War. After the World War he joined the Nationalist movement in Anatolia and was, therefore, elected to the first Grand National Assembly.

After

After the victory of the Turkish troops and the proclamation of the Republic he was elected to the National Assembly. For the last seven years he has held the office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Turkish people and Government admire and appreciate the great services he has rendered the country in the various offices he has held."

In reply to a question regarding the exact date of His Excellency's departure and expected arrival in Persia, the Turkish diplomat said: "He will leave Ankara on January 4, but we have no information as to when he will reach the border."

In answer to a further question he added: "We have no information as to how long he will stay here. Husrev Bey, the Turkish Ambassador to Teheran now on leave of absence in Turkey, will return to his post in company with the Foreign Minister."

His Excellency Tewfik Rushdi Bey

PM RECD

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, Persia, January 28, 1932.

No. 1029.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1932
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

FEB 24 32

Confidential

TREATY DIVISION
FEB 27 1932
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Division of Foreign Service Personnel
MAR 11 1932
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1932
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FEB 29 1932
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FILED
MAR 12 1932

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

The Turko-Persian frontier question, I have the honor to report, is at long last settled. The settlement was made with the personal approval of the Shah. The principal negotiators were the Foreign Ministers of the two countries. The definite "accord" was signed at four o'clock on the night of January 22-23. There was signed also at the same time a treaty of arbitration.

The semi-official Teheran newspaper IRAN of January 26 adds that: "The new treaties as signed and exchanged between His Highness Foroughi and His Excellency Tewfik Rushdi Bey will be submitted promptly to the Medjliss."

The

The prospective visit to Teheran of Tewfik Rushdi Bey, Turkish Foreign Minister, was reported in my despatch No. 1004 of January 6. 767.9115/42 He arrived on January 17 and, as the guest of the State, was lodged in the residence of the Minister of War. That evening he dined with Foroughi, and after dinner there was an exchange of mutually complimentary speeches the texts of which were carried the following morning in crying headlines by the entire Teheran press. Negotiations were begun that afternoon (January 18), and at sun-down (it was Ramazan) the two Foreign Ministers were received by the Shah who, departing from usual custom, retained them for dinner. A picture of Gazi Mustapha Kemal was presented.

The four days, ending with the signature of the treaties, must to Tewfik Rushdi Bey have been a kaleidoscopic passing of strange faces and many drafts of disputed articles. He had luncheon with the Minister of War, the Soviet Chargé d'Affaires and his own Ambassador and dined at the Municipality, the Iran Club (again with Foroughi as host) and the Turkish Embassy. The dinners were followed by receptions to which all official and social Teheran were bid to come and came. He interviewed the correspondents, speaking with a directness which won him the full sympathy of the press. Junior officials of the Foreign Office were pushed to extraordinary, quite un-Ramazanlike efficiency, working at their desks till last calls for official dinners sounded.

That the accords had been signed was made known on January 23, and on the morning of the following day, the

date

date scheduled* for the departure of Rushdi Bey and his party by special airplanes for Baghdad, the following mutually agreed-to Foreign Office communique was published:

Now that His Excellency Dr. Tewfik Rushdi Bey, the honorable Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey, has made a trip to Persia to communicate to His Imperial Majesty the ShahinShah, May our Souls be Sacrificed for Him, the expression of fraternal sentiments of His Excellency the Ghazi, Mustapha Kemal, the august President of Turkey, and to convey, on behalf of the Turkish Government and people, to the Persian Government and people, an expression of the sincere friendship existing between the two countries;

And, following His Excellency's friendly visits to and amicable negotiations with the statesmen of the Imperial Government;

Both parties availed themselves of the opportunity, conforming to the desires of the two nations, of which the sacred designs of the two illustrious supreme heads of the two countries are the exponent, to strengthen the ties of mutual friendship, to settle all the outstanding boundary disputes and to adopt the best means of solving differences that may arise in the future between the two Governments.

An agreement was, therefore, concluded concerning the entire (Perso-Turkish) boundary, ab initio ad infinitum, in accordance with which the boundary line is basically the same as was agreed upon three years ago in Ankara between His Highness Foroughi and His Excellency Dr. Tewfik Rushdi Bey.

The differences remaining unsettled since then were solved by an exchange of lands, the Persian Government ceding to the Turkish Government a piece of land in the mountainous region of Agridagh in return for lands in the region of Bajargueh.

767.68114

Meanwhile in the region of Kotur where the border line was undetermined and long mooted between the two Governments, the Turkish Government agreed to give a part of contested territories into the possession of the Persian Government. The border line was, therefore, determined in that territory and the former disputes were entirely settled.

The text of a pertinent accord was, therefore, drawn up and signed by both Foreign Ministers, and it was stipulated that in the spring of next year a mixed commission,

composed

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*That the departure has been delayed by unfavorable flying weather is reported in a current despatch.

composed of the representatives of both parties, should proceed to the boundary to put up signs of demarcation in accordance with the said accord.

note 16.7.9112

As to the settlement of possible future differences His Excellency Dr. Tewfik Rushdi Bey and His Highness Foroughi signed a treaty of arbitration and conciliation after the model now in vogue in international relations.

The delimitation accord and the treaty of arbitration, both written in the French language, will be submitted, after they are translated into Persian and Turkish, in Teheran to the National Consultative Assembly and in Ankara to the Grand National Assembly, for ratification.

Outside the two above-mentioned agreements already concluded His Excellency Dr. Tewfik Rushdi Bey and his honorable suite conducted negotiations with the statesmen of the Persian Government concerning economic affairs, roads and communications, conventions of commerce, establishment and extradition of criminals and prevention of contraband, both parties showing ardent desire to consummate the said conventions and to achieve results useful to both countries.

It was agreed that the necessary studies and negotiations on these latter subjects should be terminated as expeditiously as possible.

Thus was particular agreement reached regarding the three so-called "disputed zones" of this long unsettled frontier, "a phenomenom of procrastination unparalleled even in the chronicles of Oriental diplomacy."* That the settlement was, as prognosticated in my above-mentioned despatch of January 6, in the nature of a compromise is now clear.

Turkey has gained its point where most it wanted success--i.e., in the Little Ararat (Agridagh) zone. And Persia has received compensation in the two southern disputed zones of Kotur and Bajergueh (Bazirga, on the Legation's maps, northeast of Rezaieh).

As

*Quoted from G. E. Hubbard's "From the Gulf to Ararat", being an account of the labors of the joint British, Russian, Persian and Ottoman "Delimitation Commission" of 1914--published by E.P. Dutton & Company, New York, (1917).

As expressed to me by my new German colleague, Herr von Blucher, Tewfik Rushdi Bey gained his point as to Agridagh largely by convincing the Persian military advisers that, while the cession of the proposed territory would carry with it strategical advantage, that advantage was practically nullified by a factor not sufficiently recognized in the earlier negotiations.

The ceded area in Agridagh, he explained, is cut to the eastward by a chain of low hills running north and south. The Persians wished to retain at least the southernmost of these hills, Baghi Bashi, thus controlling the Bayazid-Khoi road as it debuches onto the Azerbaidjan plain. However, for Turkey to have yielded on this point would have largely nullified the value of the position as a basis for repressive operations against dissident Kurdish tribesmen. And, as a final and convincing argument Rushdi Bey held that through the fortification of a single lone hill, which stands up from the plain a few miles to the eastward and on the Persian side of the proposed frontier, the Persian army would be enabled effectively to control, as a matter of military strategy, both the road and Baghi Bashi hill.

Of the other matters, discussed but not settled by the two Foreign Ministers and of which mention was made in the two concluding paragraphs of the above-quoted Foreign Office communique, by far the most important, if I judge local comment aright, is that of the Trebizond Road. It is now general information that on this subject agreement in principle has been reached and that "there remain only certain technical details to be discussed, phrased and

867.154
891.154

determined

determined." I gather that the general effect of this agreement is to grant Persia right of free transit along this ancient trade route to seaboard and a "free" port at Trebizond. The importance of these privileges to Persia's national economy has been stressed in my earlier despatches on the frontier question.

To my German colleague, Tewfik Rushdi spoke with special enthusiasm of the understanding with reference to the construction of the Erzerum-Trebizond road. He said nothing of any advantages that might accrue to Turkey from the construction of that highway but asserted it would diminish transportation costs to Teheran by more than half as compared with shipment by way of Bushire and Mohammerah. Transport by way of the latter ports from Europe, he said often involves three transshipments while by way of Trebizond not more than one transshipment will be required. Nothing was said in this conversation, so far as I could learn, of the relief that Persia would receive from its dependency on Soviet trade routes.

Before concluding, I must mention the very sincere regret expressed by Tewfik Rushdi Bey upon learning, during his stay in Teheran, of the transfer of Mr. Grew from Istanbul to Tokio. "Your Mr. Grew", he said, "was as one of my own relatives. We shall miss him more than I can tell you. Since the war your country has sent two great ambassadors to mine, two great friends of the new Turkey. With Admiral Bristol and Mrs. Bristol, whom we all loved, I still correspond. Now, it is with real sorrow that I learn--and that is the phrase used in my telegram from

Ankara

Ankara--of the transfer of Grew whom, also, we had come to love and admire." Then, turning to the Japanese Minister, Rushdi Bey repeated, again with most patent sincerity, his encomium and regret, adding: "I want you to tell your Foreign Office of what I have said. What is our loss is your gain."

L/ In conclusion, I enclose translations of the texts of telegrams of mutual congratulation exchanged, upon the signature of the new treaties, between the Turkish Prime Minister, Ismet Pasha, and Foreign Minister Foroughi, as published in the local press on January 25.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

Enclosure: One, as stated.

File No. 715.

GW/PE

Copy to E. I. C., Paris.

4 Carbon Copies
Received ---------- JM
1 copy in DCR - LEB.

TRANSLATION

Enclosure No. 1,
Despatch No. 1029.

To His Excellency Ismet Pasha, Prime Minister, Ankara:

It affords me the greatest pleasure to inform Your Excellency that on this hour His Excellency Tewfik Rushdi Bey and myself signed the accord for the definitive delimitation of the Perso-Turkish boundary line as well as a Treaty of Arbitration between the two countries.

I venture to present to Your Excellency my sincere congratulations and to express my happiness over the great success that has been thus achieved strengthening more than ever before the old ties of friendly relations between the Persian and Turkish people and opening a new era of sincerity between the two countries.

(signed) Foroughi.

REPLY.

To His Highness Mohammad Ali Khan Foroughi, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Teheran:

I have the greatest pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of Your Highness' telegram relative to the signature of the Turko-Persian Delimitation Accord and Treaty of Arbitration. I wish to thank Your Highness heartily for your congratulations and beg to express my own congratulations to yourself.

The only question which was in abeyance between Turkey and Persia has thus been rapidly and definitively settled.

Turkey and Persia are joined together with strong ties of utmost sincerity. This event is not only a firm guarantee of cemented relations between the two countries in the future but also a proof of the usefulness of direct negotiations conducted in good faith and with a firm intention to realize a mutual desire to solve problems between Governments and hence to insure peace.

I share the feelings of Your Highness expressed in your telegram and trust that the old ties of friendly relationship between both countries will gain new strength as a result of this accomplishment.

(signed) Ismet.

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 661.9131/82 FOR Despatch # 1031

FROM Persia ( Hart ) DATED Jan.29,1932

TO NAME

1—1127 OFO

REGARDING: Signing of Perso-Turkish frontier delimination treaty in a few days.

767.9115/44

764 9115

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 867.9111/346 FOR Report #-

FROM Istanbul ( Allen ) DATED Jan.27,1932

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: Turkish-Persian Frontier.
Press report that Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs signed on January 22 an agreement rectifying the - while visiting in Teheran,Persia.

leb

767.9115/45

At the latter point he was met by the Persian under-secretary of state for foreign affairs. He arrived at the Persian capital on January 18, it would seem, after having been somewhat delayed by snowstorms. (The press publishes an unconfirmed report that he signed on January 22 an agreement rectifying the frontier) and that he left Teheran on January 23 en route to Bagdad. Nothing in the press columns describes the new frontier in any more detail than it was described in the preceding report. The MILLIYET expresses the opinion that this happy outcome is to be attributed in large measure to the disappearance of the Osmanli and Khajar dynasties whose jealousies had for centuries prevented a proper understanding between the two peoples. In

The Rectification of the Frontier

767.9115

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 867.9111/348 FOR report #-

FROM Istanbul ( Allen ) DATED Feb. 11, 1932
NAME

TO

1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: Treaty rectifying the Turko-Persian frontier signed at Teheran by the two countries on January 24, 1932. A joint commission consisting of representatives of the two parties will apparently put down markers indicating the line of the new frontier as soon as the weather permits.

las

767.9115/46

767.9115

RECD

AHE

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, Persia, February 7, 1932.

No. 1045.

MAR 10 32

FOR DISTRIBUTION - [illegible] Yes No

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 10 1932
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.9115/47

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

767.9115/42

FILED
MAR 16 1932

Referring to my despatches Nos. 1004 and 1029 of January 6 and 28, 1932, I have the honor to conclude briefly my account of the recent visit to Persia of Tewfik Rushdi Bey, Turkish Foreign Minister. Amidst a blaze of further congratulatory press comment, Rushdi Bey and his suite were finally able to leave Teheran on January 31, last.

The duration of his visit was, therefore, fourteen instead of the anticipated seven days. As already reported the reason for this delay was the inclement

winter

winter weather which had blocked all motor routes* leading from the capital to the frontier and had prevented even the experienced Junkers pilots from essaying the flight to Baghdad.

Finally, however, on January 27, one Junkers special plane, after several failures, got through to Pahlevi and returned with Teymourtache, Minister of the Court. The latter had concluded his extended (four and a half months) European tour by a brief visit to Moscow and had arrived at Pahlevi on January 24th.

Rushdi Bey was therefore able to discuss with Teymourtache the negotiations of the preceding week which had resulted in the signature on January 23 of the Turko-Persian boundary convention and treaty of arbitration. And, if the usual semi-official rumor of the capital may be believed, some further progress was made in the preliminary negotiations for the conclusion of the other matters (see my despatch No. 1029) discussed by the two foreign ministers.

767.9115/43

Rushdi Bey was, however, unable to carry out his original program of visiting Baghdad en route from Teheran to Geneva where he was due to attend the opening session of the Disarmament Conference. He left by special airplane for Pahlevi, accompanied by Undersecretary Gaffary of the Persian Foreign Office, and from thence proceeded by

---

*Today the Kazvin-Hamadan-Kermanshah-Baghdad route has been temporarily reopened, but the Shiraz-Bushire passes are still blocked, and no mail has been received for 20 days over the most used Resht-Kazvin road. Over 100 motor trucks, I am informed by the British Consul, are blocked on this last road at the foot of the Kuhin pass. Incidentally, coal (consisting largely of dust and stones) is now selling in Teheran at 17 tomans the kharvar, or about $29 the long ton, and the average daily temperature during the past fortnight has remained consistently about the freezing point.

by boat to Baku. His parting communication to Persian Foreign Minister Foroughi, as published in the local press of February 3, read, in translation, as follows:

> On leaving the hospitable land of Persia I find it a most agreeable duty to express to Your Highness my feelings of profound gratitude for the cordial reception, never to be forgotten, which was accorded me during my sojourn in the sympathetic capital of the great and friendly neighbor of Turkey.
>
> I shall be grateful to Your Highness, Mr. Minister and dear friend, if you would kindly become the interpreter of my heart-felt gratitude to the Persian Government.
>
> Very happy over the concrete results obtained in Teheran in the real interests of both countries, I request Your Highness to believe me when I say that I shall always retain pleasant and lasting memories of my sojourn in Persia.

To the foregoing account it may perhaps be of interest to add two further news items published in the local press. The first, reported as a statement made on February 4 to a reporter of the EQDAM by Teymourtache, reads as follows:

> It is a source of great satisfaction that our border disputes with Turkey have received a favorable solution. For we were loath to have any difference with a neighboring country like Turkey. With the delimitation problem solved to mutual satisfaction, the relations between the two countries are most happily strengthened.
>
> There is no dispute between Persia and Iraq in the matter of frontiers. The Perso-Iraq frontier is the same as was delimited in the year 1913.

My second news item was published on February 7 by the SETAREH YE DJEHANE "with reservation, as no official information on the subject has been received". If read, however,

however, in connection with the foregoing quotation and with the expressed regret of Rushdi Bey that unavoidable circumstances forced him to postpone his projected visit to Baghdad, it is of interest as suggesting the possibility of further diplomatic moves towards a closer rapprochement of Near Eastern Islamic states. It reads, in translation, as follows:

> We receive word from Baghdad that the newspaper AL IRAQ has announced the appointment of Emir Zeid, brother of King Faisal, as Iraq Minister to Ankara and that the newspaper ZEMINDAR of Lahore reports that, as there is pending the question of concluding a Perso-Turko-Iraq triple alliance, Emir Zeid's nomination carries particular importance.

note 701.90g67

In Teheran there has been some vague reference to the possibility of such a rapprochement, engendered I have sensed, not only by Rushdi Bey's visit but also by a growing recognition of a mutual need of cooperation in the handling of the ever thorny Kurdish problem. On this latter question one still hears references to deep-died British intrigues aimed at establishing an independent Kurdistan to act as a buffer state in an eventual struggle between Soviet Russia and the British Empire for the control of the southern trade routes. And again we have rumors that the omnipresent Colonel Lawrence, of Arab fame, after attending the Islamic Congress at Jerusalem as an Indian Moslem, is traveling incognito in the Sulaimanieh mountains or amongst the tribes on the Turko-Iraq border. But, with the SETAREH YE DJEHANE, I read or hear of all this "with reservation".

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

Copy to E.I.C., Paris.
File No. 715.
GW/PE

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 891.9111/299 FOR #1094

FROM Persia ( Wadsworth ) DATED March 23, 1932

TO NAME 1—1127 o.f.o.

REGARDING:

The Persian Minister for Foreign Affairs presented to the Majlis two bills, one on the settlement of the Perso-Turkish frontier differences and delimitation and the second on arbitration between the two governments.

las

767.9115/48

767.9115

## B) FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

### 1) His Highness Foroughi in Head Lines.

### a) Presents Perso-Turkish Agreements to Majlis.

According to the ETTELA'AT of March 19, the Minister for Foreign Affairs presented to the Majlis in the morning of the same day two bills, one on the settlement of the Perso-Turkish frontier differences and delimitation and the second on arbitration between the two Governments, furnishing the following explanatory remarks:

"The

"The honorable deputies are certainly well aware of the frontier disputes which existed from times immemorial between the Governments of Persia and the old Ottoman Empire and present day Turkey. You all know that these controversies have in fact been outstanding since the Safavi dynasty. During the Kajar dynasty, to say nothing of struggles and wars, international commissions were several times formed for purposes of such delimitation. Some of them were entirely futile and some, including the one held one year before the World War, ended with a deficient result.

"Several years later when I was assigned to Turkey, in fact for the settlement of this long mooted affair, some progress was achieved, and the larger part of the Perso-Turkish frontiers were determined. However, differences as to a few sectors were not solved, but it was agreed that, failing agreement, these differences should be referred to arbitration.

"Of course both the Persian and Turkish Governments, whose present policy is one of perfect peace and whose aim is to maintain friendly and cordial relations, were discontent because the question had not been entirely settled. They were anxious to terminate it in a friendly manner.

"The gentlemen will recall that recently the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs came to Teheran with the object of strengthening our friendly relations; that he received the honor of an audience with His Imperial Majesty; that he conducted negotiations with the Persian Government authorities; that, in pursuance of a proposal previously submitted concerning an exchange of territory between Persia and Turkey, the Persian Government ceded a part of Persian territory to Turkey, receiving in return a part of Turkish territory, thus effecting a definitive settlement of all border disputes; and that an agreement was concluded with respect to which the pertinent bill is being now presented to the National Consultative Assembly with the request that it be approved.

"In addition to that agreement, when the Turkish Foreign Minister was in Teheran, with a view further to cementing mutually friendly relations and to enhancing the conciliatory designs of both Governments there was signed a treaty of arbitration, conciliation and judicial settlement to provide a means for the settlement of any differences perchance arising between the two Governments. A treaty in that sense, drafted along lines common to international practice, I also now submit to the consideration of the Majlis."

Comment: The signed texts were referred to the Majlis Committee on Foreign Relations and have not yet been reported back to the floor.

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 867.9111/364 FOR Report #-

FROM Istanbul ( Allen ) DATED May 21, 1932

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: Turko-Persian frontier.
Commission which will delimit the new - will begin its labors in June. Exchange of ratifications of frontier agreement may be effected by that time.

leb

767.9115/49

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 791.00/10 FOR #981

FROM Persia ( Hart ) DATED Dec. 16, 1931

TO NAME 1—1127

REGARDING: Convention relative to security of Perso-Turkish frontier. Two copies in French of the ,-, between Turkey and Persia dated April 9, 1929.

las

767.9115/50

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 891.9111/304 FOR #1149

FROM Persia ( Hart ) DATED June 1, 1932

TO NAME

1—1127

REGARDING: The Persian Majlis on May 26th voted a sole article sanctioning the Perso-Turkish Frontier Agreement of January 23, 1932, and authorizing the Government to exchange ratifications.

las

767.9115/51

767.9115

## B) FOREIGN AFFAIRS

### 1) Majlis Votes Perso-Turkish Frontier Agreement.

The Pressonn May 27 announced that the Majlis on May 26 voted a sole article sanctioning the Perso-Turkish Frontier Agreement of January 23, 1932, and authorizing the Government to exchange ratifications.

Comment: The MESSAGER DE TEHERAN is, according to Editor Francois Malek-Karam, making every effort to obtain a copy of this Agreement from the Foreign Office for publication as soon as available.

Other press announcements on the subject report that the Turkish Government has invited Teymourtache, Minister of the Court, and Foroughi, Persian Foreign Minister, to visit Ankara during the coming year and that the latter has accepted, Teymourtache regretting that the pressure of affairs prevents his accepting. The Legation believes Teymourtache's reason for not accepting to be frankly truthful.

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, June 11, 1932.

No. 1156.

Subject: Transmitting Official Text of Perso-Turkish Frontier Delimitation Convention of January 23, 1932.

HISTORICAL ADVISER
JUL 28 1932
DEPT. OF STATE

Geograph.
JUL 29 1932
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1 copy of despatch filed in HA Geog. Section.

JUL
FOR DISTRIBUTION - Check Yes No
To the Field
To U. S. A.

TREATY DIVISION
JUL 26 1932
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 9 1932
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.9115

767.9115/52

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

767.915/47

Referring to my despatch No. 1045 of February 7, 1932, reporting the conclusion on January 23 of a Perso-Turkish frontier delimitation convention, and to the news item quoted in my despatch No. 1149 of June 1, 1932, reporting that the Persian Majlis had on May 26, 1932, ratified that convention, I have the honor now to enclose a reprint of the official French text of the convention as published during the past week in the local press. 1/

The convention consists of three articles and an exchange of notes subsidiary thereto. Article 1 describes the frontier; Article 2 provides for the establishment

FILED
MAY 25 1938

establishment of a joint frontier commission "to trace on the ground" the frontier thus described; Article 3 provides that the convention will enter into effect upon exchange of ratifications; and the exchange of notes provides for the use, by border guard posts of both countries, of certain frontier waters and grazing grounds.

Informal inquiry made of officials of the Persian Foreign Office and among my colleagues elicits the information that no map of the new frontier is as yet available; and from the French Military Attaché I have it that there are at Teheran no facilities for drafting such a map. In the circumstances it may be possible that the Geographer of the Department of State could find time to have traced a rough sketch of the new frontier on one of the excellent maps, now showing the former frontier, available to his office. If so, the Legation would appreciate highly receiving either an original or photostatic copy thereof.

Respectfully yours,

Charles C. Hart.

Enclosure:

1. Official French Text of Perso- Turkish Frontier Delimitation Convention of January 23, 1932.

Copy to E.I.C., Paris.

File No. 715

GW/PE

**Cinéma „Iran" Ce soir Marlène Dietrich et Emil Jannings dans „l'Ange Bleu" c'est un parlant de L'UFA**

**No 1673** Mercredi 8 Juin 1932 — 18 Khordad Mâh 1311 — SEPTIÈME ANNÉE

ADMINISTRATION
TÉHERAN
Rue Arbab Kei-Khosrow,
No 6 (Kiabane Nadiri)
TÉLÉPHONE No. 576
Adresse Télégraphique:
„Messager - Téhéran"
Directeur—Propriétaire:
François Malek-Karam

# Le Messager de Téhéran

(publie les dépêches de toutes les sources en déclinant toute responsabilité quant a leur teneur)
Seul journal en Perse publiant le même jour, en français et en anglais les nouvelles du monde entier.
Paraissant tous les jours, excepté le mardi et samedi.

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## ACCORD
## Relatif à la fixation de la ligne frontière
### ENTRE
### LA PERSE ET LA TURQUIE

*SA MAJESTÉ IMPÉRIALE*
*LE SCHAH DE PERSE*
**et**
*LE PRÉSIDENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE TURQUE*

Egalement animés du désir sincère de fixer définitivement la ligne frontière entre la Perse et la Turquie et de consolider ainsi la bonne entente et les rapports de fraternelle amitié entre leurs peuples, ont résolu de conclure un accord à cet effet, et ont désigné pour Leurs plénipotentiaires respectifs:

**Son Altesse Mohammad Ali Khan Foroughi,**
Ministre des affaires étrangères de Perse.

**Son Excellence le Docteur Tevfik Rustu Bey,**
Ministre des affaires étrangères de Turquie.

Lesquels, dûment autorisés, sont tombés d'accord sur les dispositions suivantes.

**Article Premier.** La frontière entre la Perse et la Turquie prend son point de départ au confluent du fleuve *Aras* et de la rivière *Karasou* à la borne № 1, située sur le territoire persan. Elle suit ensuite la tangente de direction passant à 100 mètres à l'Ouest de la localité *Top* se trouvant à 3.000 mètres à l'Est de *Cheikhbabou*, *Top* restant à la Perse. De là, la ligne se dirige vers la colline qui se trouve à 2.500 mètres au Sud-Est de *Cheikhbabou* et passe par le sommet de cette colline d'où elle se dirige vers le Sud Ouest jusqu'à la colline se trouvant à 1. 300 mètres à l'Est du village *Hassan Agha* et passe par le sommet de cette dernière colline; ensuite la ligne se dirige vers l'Ouest jusqu'à la colline se trouvant à 800 mètres au Sud du village *Hassan Agha* passant par son sommet. De là, elle passe par le sommet de la colline se trouvant à 500 mètres au Sud-Ouest, puis descend 1.500 mètres vers le Sud sur la crête, jusqu'à un point situé à 2.000 mètres au Sud-Est de *Salep*, puis passe par le col entre les deux hauteurs principales situées respectivement à 800 et 1,000 mètres au Nord de la côte 1.948.

Ensuite la ligne se dirige par la ligne de crête jusqu'à la côte 1.948 et passe dessus; de là, elle suit vers le Sud la ligne de partage des eaux de la crête des monts *Ayeu-Beg* juqu'au sommet Sud de ces monts qui se trouvent à 700 mètres au Nord-Ouest du

La Chancellerie de la Légation de Pologne sera fermée à Téhéran le mardi 7 juin et le mercredi 8 juin 1932. Elle sera rouverte le jeudi 9 juin 1932 à Chimran, à Hossein Abad d'Elahieh.

Toutefois pendant l'été la Chancellerie de la Légation sera ouverte en ville tous les mercredis et samedis de 10 à 12 heures.

## Avis

L'Ambassade de l'Union des Républiques soviétistes-socialistes porte à la connaissance du public qu'en raison de son transfert à Zerguindeh, sa Chancellerie en ville sera fermée aujourd'hui 8 juin et rouverte à Zerguindeh demain 9,

Les affaires consulaires s'effectueront comme d'habitude à Téhéran, au consulat se trouvant dans l'Avenue Nasséré-Khosrow.

l'Ouest de *Bazyrgan* et suit le partage des eaux entre les villages turcs *Ourdjı Boulakh*, *Nazik* et *Kara Koymaz* et les villages persans *Bazyrgan*, *Kedjot*, *Baoh Kend* et *Marokeumou*; puis traverse le col situé entre *Marokeumou* et *Tawla* (Turc), et laissant en Perse les ruines de *Kasorlou* et *Chekh Asker*, arrive aux rochers de *Khodja Dagh*, passe par les crêtes *Zindo-Dachy* de *Kanly-Baba* et *Ak-Dach* laissant à la Perse le village *Djewzar* et passant par les crêtes de *Ak-Dagh* et *Kalender*, separe les champs des villages persans *Nifte*, *Salmun Abad* et *Pir Ahmed* de ceux du village turc *Deuohurma* et, suivant toujours le parage des eaux entre *Bayazid* et *Avadjik* atteint *Khezine Guedouk*.

De *Khezine Guedouk* la frontière, laissant le village *Kysyl-Kaya* à la Turquie et le village *Silomiagoul* ainsi [illegible] Perse passe

Perse la hauteur allongée située à 250 mètres vers le Nord-Est. De là, elle suit la ligne de crête jusqu'au sommet de la hauteur située à 500 mètres au Sud-Est, puis descend vers le Sud-Ouest jusqu'au confluent du *Heratil Sou* (ruisseau venant de *Heratil*) et du *Ketour Tchay* Ensuite la ligne remonte la pente vers le Sud jusqu'au sommet situé à 800 mètres et de là elle descend toujours en direction du Sud dans la vallée du *Kani-Reche* dont elle suit le thalweg 700 mètres vers l'Ouest puis 500 mètres vers le Sud; ensuite elle grimpe sur l'éperon prolongeant la crête qui monte vers *Molla Mamed Dagh* directement au sud, partage *Molla Mamed Dagh* en deux, laissant à la Perse la hauteur située à deux cent cinquante mètres à l'Est de *Molla Mamed Dagh*, hauteur qu'elle laisse à 250 mètres à l'Est.

De *Molla Mamed Dagh* la ligne

Lesquels, dûment autorisés, sont tombés d'accord sur les dispositions suivantes.

**Article Premier.** La frontière entre la Perse et la Turquie prend son point de départ au confluent du fleuve *Aras* et de la rivière *Karasou* à la borne № 1, située sur le territoire persan. Elle suit ensuite la thalweg du *Karasou* qu'elle remonte jusqu'au lac *Borolan*. Puis elle se dirige en ligne droite jusqu'à la colline qui se trouve à 100 mètres au Sud-Est des sources du Kasasou; elle contourne cette colline à l'Est et au Nord en la laissant à la Perse. Ensuite la ligne s'infléchit encore vers le Nord-Ouest et atteint les rochers de *Borolan* qui dominent immédiatement les sources du *Karasou*. De la borne № 2 la frontière suit une ligne directe dans la direction de la borne № 3 et du *Petit Aghridagh* en passant par les bornes № 4, 5, 6, 7 et 8 jusqu'à la borne № 9 située sur un point qui est, en ligne droite, à 16 km. 600 du bord le plus septentrional du lac *Borolan* et à 6. Km. 400 du point le plus élevé du *Petit Aghridagh*. Elle suit le chemin *Bilidjan Cheikhbabou* parallèlement jusqu'au bout d'une distance de 1.700 mètres et à partir de ce point, elle arrive à 100 mètres au Sud-Est de *Todjik Tepe* laissant cette colline à la Turquie. Ensuite la ligne s'infléchit vers le Sud-Ouest, passant à 150 mètres à l'Est du village de *Todjik*, laissant ce village à la Turquie et continue dans la même direction à 800 et 1.000 mètres au Nord de la côte 1.948.

Ensuite la ligne se dirige par la ligne de crête jusqu'à la côte 1.948 et passe dessus; de là, elle suit vers le Sud la ligne de partage des eaux de la crête des monts *Ayou-Beg* juqu'au sommet Sud de ces monts qui se trouvent à 700 mètres au Nord-Ouest du coude du chemin allant de *Yarim Kaya* à *Guijo* et lequel coude se trouve sur ce chemin, à 3.500 mètres au Nord-Est de *Yarim Kaya* et 6.300 mètres au Sud-Ouest de *Guijo*.

De là, la ligne continue à 200 mètres à l'Ouest parallèlement au chemin *Yarim Kaya Guijo* jusqu'au carrefour qui est à 200 mètres Nord de *Yarim Kaya* supérieure, laissant ledit carrefour à la Perse. De là, la ligne descend vers l'Ouest jusqu'à un point situé à 600 mètres à l'Ouest de *Yarim Kaya*, sur le chemin *Yarem Kaya Boulakhbashi*; ensuite la ligne descend vers le Sud jusqu'au point le plus septentrional du bord du marais; de ce point, la ligne se dirige vers le milieu du marais qu'elle suit jusqu'à son bord méridional, 200 mètres au Nord de *Toho Khour-Reche*. Là, la ligne tourne vers l'Ouest et atteint le sommet de la colline 1668. *Tchou Khour-Reche* et *Cheytan Abad* restant à la Perse et *Guirberan* revient à la Turquie.

De ce point situé entre le village persan *Cheytan Abad* et le village turc *Guirberan*, la frontière monte la crête de la colline de *Guirberan* à *der*, separe les champs des villages persans *Nifte*, *Salman Abad* et *Pir Ahmed* de ceux du village turc *Deuchurma* et, suivant toujours le parage des eaux entre *Bayazid* et *Avadjik* atteint *Khezine Guedouk*.

De *Khezine Guedouk* la frontière, laissant le village *Kysyl-Kaya* à la Turquie et le village *Silomiagoul* ainsi que le lac *Koubou-Gueul* à la Perse passe par le mont *Kara Guney*, traverse la rivière *Epriteahy* à *Top Agh Dagh*, passe par *Kala Agh Dagh*, laisse le village *Nado* à la Perse et celui de *Ergitchaï* à la Turquie, atteint les monts *Kyzyl Ziaret* et passe par les cols de *Agh Djak* et *Khan Guedouk*, les monts *Sary Tchimen* sommet Ouest de *Doumaanlou*, le col de *Kara Bourga*, laissant les villages *Chikh Selo* en territoire persan, passe par le mont *Nawour*, laisse en territoire persan le village *Yekmala*, passe par *Richkan*, les collines entre *Davra* et *Akhourik*, *Guevra Begzadan*, *Gevri Makhine* et *Khydyr Baba*.

A partir de *Khydyr Baba* la ligne frontière suit la ligne de partage des eaux passant à 2,000 mètres à l'Est du lac *Dasena Gueul* dans la direction du Sud jusqu'à la côte 8.000; elle continue encore 1.000 mètres dans la même direction sur les crêtes, puis s'infléchit vers le Sud-Est et suit les crêtes dans cette nouvelle direction en une distance de 600 mètres; ensuite elle tourne de nouveau vers le Sud jusqu'au sommet d'une colline située à 500 mètres en laissant à la l'Ouest puis 500 mètres vers le Sud; ensuite elle grimpe sur l'éperon prolongeant la crête qui monte vers *Molla Mamed Dagh* directement au sud, partage *Molla Mamed Dagh* en deux, laissant à la Perse la hauteur située à deux cent cinquante mètres à l'Est de *Molla Mamed Dagh*, hauteur qu'elle laisse à 250 mètres à l'Est.

De *Molla Mamed Dagh* la ligne suit la crête sur une distance de 800 mètres jusqu'à un point situé sur le chemin à 200 mètres à l'Est de *Quichla*, *Quichla* restant à la Turquie. Puis la Frontière suit la ligne de partage des eaux vers le Sud-Est jusqu'au sommet situé à 1.750 mètres de là, 200 mètres au Sud du coude du chemin. De ce point la ligne descend vers le Sud, par les crêtes jusqu'à un point situé sur le chemin qui passe dans le ravin à 2.200 mètres de là; de ce point elle remonte la peute vers le Sud sur une distance de 300 mètre, atteint la crête vers le Sud-Ouest jusqu'à une colline située à 500 mètres de là; ensuite elle descend vers le Sud par la ligne de crête jusqu'au ravin où passe le chemin *Tarsava*, *Tchelik Achagha* à 900 mètres de là; elle suit le thalweg de ce ravin vers l'Ouest sur une étendue de 500 mètres, puis monte par les crêtes jusqu'à la côte 8 200 située à 1.700 mètres de là. Ensuite la ligne suit les crêtes vers le Sud-Est jusq' au mont *Koutch*; de *Koutch* la ligne suit la ligne de crête en passant par le col de *Kaoh-Koul* jusqu'au mont *Sourawou*; des monts *Sourawou* la

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Istanbul, June 29, 1932.

1 copy of despatch
filed in HA Geog. Section.

Office of the Geographer
JUL 27 1932
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

No. 50

SUBJECT: Turco-Persian Frontier Convention.

TREATY DIVISION
JUL 25 1932
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

HISTORICAL ADVISER
JUL 25 1932
DEPT. OF STATE

FOR DISTRIBUTION - Y... No
... Field
In U. S. A.

AM RECD
DEPT. OF STATE DIV. COM. & REC.
JUL 18 32

767.9115/53

767.9115
note
767.9112

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 19 1932
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Sir:

Turkey signed a Convention with Persia on February 23, 1932, delineating the Turkish-Persian frontier, thereby ending a point in dispute between the two countries for many years. As pointed out in the Embassy's despatch No. 1407 of January 12, 1932, this Convention constitutes an important landmark in Persian-Turkish relations. By the terms of the Convention, Persia, in return for two strips of Turkish territory along the southern frontier, cedes the strategic eastern flank of Mt. Ararat to the Turks, thus giving them control of that part of the frontier where the Kurdish tribes have heretofore been able to organize

effective

FILED
MAY 25 1938

effective uprisings which spread over into Turkish territory.

This Convention, entitled "Convention Relative to the Delineation of the Frontier between Turkey and Persia," consists of two articles, Article I tracing the new frontier and Article II providing for a Committee of Delineation to consist of two Turks and two Persians to carry out the provisions of Article I. Article II also provides that the work of this Committee shall begin in June, 1932.

A Treaty of Conciliation, Judicial Settlement and Arbitration was also signed by the two countries on February 23, 1932. This Treaty which consists of twenty-four articles has no unusual provisions. Both the Convention and the Treaty were ratified by Turkey on June 23.

767.911²

I shall transmit the French texts of the Convention and the Treaty as soon as they are available.

Respectfully yours,

Charles H. Sherrill

Charles H. Sherrill.

715/710
EMH:ON

COPY SENT E. I. C. PARIS

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 891.9111/306 FOR #1174

FROM Persia ( Hart ) DATED June 30, 1932

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: The National Assembly ratified the Frontier Agreement between Turkey and Persia. The IRAN on June 20 advises that -.

las

767.9115/54

767.9115

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 500. C 111/697 FOR # 1223

FROM Persia ( Hart ) DATED Sept. 7, 1932.

TO NAME

1—1127 o.p.o.

767.9115/55

REGARDING:

Perso-Turkish frontier delimitation agreement and a treaty of artibration: Turkish Foreign Minister Rewfik Rushdi Bey's visit to Persia was crowned with signal success by the signature of a -.

MN

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, September 23, 1932.

No. 1238.

Subject: Perso-Turkish Joint Frontier Commission Begins Delimitation of New Boundary.

DEPT. OF STATE DIV. COM. & REC.
OCT 18 32
FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK Yes No
To the Field
In U. S. A.
HISTORICAL ADVISER
OCT 21 1932
DEPT. OF STATE
767.9115
Office of the Geographer
OCT 21 1932
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1 copy of despatch
filed in HA Geog. Section.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
File HSV
OCT 18 1932
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS
767.9115/56
OCT 21 1932
FILED

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to my despatch No. 1156 of June 11, 1932, enclosing the official text of the Perso-Turkish Frontier Delimitation Convention signed at Teheran on January 23, last, Article 2 of which provided for the establishment of a joint frontier commission "to trace on the ground" the boundary described in the preceding article. The Commission was to be composed of four members, two to be named by each of the contracting governments. The Commissioners were to have as their assistants the necessary geodesists, surveyors, et cetera.

I now

I now have the honor to report, as a matter of record, the announcement, through the medium of the local press, of the names of the Persian Commissioners and of the fact that on September 10, last, together with their assistants, they arrived at the frontier, at a point west of Rezaiyeh, where the Turkish Commissioners awaited them. The Persian Commissioners are Mirza Mozzafar Khan (formerly Sardar Entassar) and General Abdol Razagh Khan. The latter is described as "Engineer and President of the Technical Mission."

From my Turkish colleague I learn that the chief Turkish Commissioner is a colonel of the Turkish General Staff and his companion a military geodesist. Husrev Bey added that the Commission's work during the short period remaining of the current summer season would be spent on delimitation work on those sections of the former frontier which were changed by the treaty of last January. He anticipates that the entire work of delimitation will be completed during 1933 and that final maps will be available early in 1934.

Respectfully yours,

Y. Charles C. Hart

Charles C. Hart.

Copy to E.I.C., Paris.

File No. 715.

GW/PE

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

767.91 15 /57

SEE 767.91/71 FOR #207

FROM Turkey ( Sherrill ) DATED Nov. 7, 1932
TO NAME

1--1127 OFO

REGARDING:
Conditions along the Persian-Turkish frontier since the signature of the frontier treaty.

Wi

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

767.9115/58

SEE 867.044/165 FOR #333

FROM Turkey (Sherrill) DATED Jan.23, 1933
TO NAME

1—1127 GPO

REGARDING:

Turco-Persian frontier agreement.

Copies of LA LEGISLATION TURQUE containing notice of ratification of -.

Wi

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

767.9115/59

SEE 867.9111/408 FOR Report #-

FROM Istanbul ( Allen ) DATED Oct.26, 1933

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: Delimitation of the Turko-Persian frontier.

Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and three army officers will Ankara October 7 to take up matter of -.

Wi

**An Aristocratic Commercial Traveler**

He came, however, not in a political capacity, but as the representative of the Hungarian iron industry, and he was careful to point out that his coming had no relation with that of Mr. Goemboes.

**Sports**

A Hungarian football team recently won and lost a game at Istanbul and a Turkish wrestling team won and lost a series of matches at Budapest.

**The Turko-Persian Frontier**

Persia.

The press said on October 3 that on October 7 a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and three army officers would leave Ankara for Haku in northern Persia to take up the matter of the delimitation of the Turko-Persian frontier.

967.9115

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 790g.91/38 FOR #59

FROM Persia (Hornibrook) DATED May 10,1934

TO NAME

1—1127 O.F.O.

REGARDING: Turkish-Persian frontier.
Conversation with the Turkish Ambassador who discussed the settlement of the - a few years ago at which time Persia accepted the work of the commission of 1913.

767.9115/60

lec

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

767.9115/61

SEE 891.9111/356 FOR #111

FROM Persia (Hornibrook) DATED June 14, 1934

TO

NAME

1-1127 gro

REGARDING: Perso-Turkish Frontier Commission.

Names of members of -.Commission will meet June 1.

6/

Wi

# DOCUMENT FILE

# NOTE

SEE 891.9111/364 FOR #231

FROM Persia (Hornibrook) DATED Oct.4, 1934

TO NAME 1—1127 GPO

REGARDING: Work of the Perso-Turkish Delimitation Commission is successfully completed.

Wi

767.9115/62

62

## A) AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Nil.

## B) FOREIGN AFFAIRS

### 1) Persian Foreign Minister Visits London.

The SHAFAQ-i-SORKH of September 30 reported the arrival in London in the evening of September 29 of the Persian Foreign Minister, H.E.B.K. Kazemi.

Comment: He left Teheran on August 26 for Geneva where he was to serve as Persia's Principal Delegate to the League of Nations (Despatch No. 194 of August 29, 1934).

### 2) Perso-Turkish Delimitation Commission Completes Its Task.

The ETTILA'AT in the evening of September 30 carried the following message from Rezaieh:

"The work of the Perso-Turkish Delimitation Commission is successfully completed."

Comment: The official text of the Perso-Turkish Frontier Delimitation Convention of January 23, 1932, was submitted to the Department as enclosures to despatch No. 1156 of June 11, 1932. The joint frontier commission began the work of delimitation in September 1932 (despatch No. 1238 of September 23, 1932).

891.915

# DOCUMENT FILE

## NOTE

SEE 765.84/1172 FOR Despatch #756

FROM Turkey (Shaw) DATED August 27, 1935.
TO NAME 1—1127

REGARDING: Frontier difficulties with Persia. Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs optimistic over the atmosphere of confidence and understanding which had been brought about between the two countries.

767.9115/63

wth

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 1068. Teheran, May 31, 1937.

Subject: Transmitting copies of a Convention concerning Security in the Frontier Regions and the Settlement of Incidents and Disputes relative thereto, between Iran and Turkey, signed at Teheran on March 14, 1937.

767.9115/64

1937 JUL 8 AM 11 15
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

To the Field
In U. S. A.

File
Gr: SDS
3/15/39

TREATY DIVISION
JUL 13 1937
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Copy C/B

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
JUL 10 1937
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED
APR 13 1938

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 9 1937
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of a convention between Iran and Turkey relating to security in the frontier regions and the settlement of incidents and disputes relative thereto, which was signed at Teheran on March 14, 1937, as published in the MESSAGER DE TEHERAN, on May 30, 1937.

The convention is in the French language but

in

in the event that the Department finds it necessary to have an English translation, the Legation will prepare and forward one.

Respectfully yours,

Gordon P. Merriam,

Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

Enclosure:

Clipping from the MESSAGER DE TEHERAN of May 30, 1937, entitled "Convention Relative à la Sécurité de la zone Frontalière et au règlement des incidents et conflits surgissant dans la dite zone entre l'Empire de l'Iran et la Republique Turque".

File No. 715-Triplicate.

GPM/PSC

# CONVENTION

## Relative à la sécurité de la zone Frontalière et au règlement des incidents et conflits surgissant dans la dite zone

ENTRE

## L'Empire de l'Iran et la République Turque

***

## Sa Majesté Impériale le Schahinschah de l'Iran

d'une part et

## Le Président de la République Turque

d'autre part.

Animés du désir de maintenir la sécurité dans la zone frontière et de simplifier et d'accélérer l'examen et le règlement des incidents et conflits surgissant dans la dite zone, ont décidé de conclure une nouvelle convention en remplacement de celle du 9 Avril 1929 et ont nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires respectifs :

*Sa Majesté Impériale le Schahinschah de l'Iran :*

Son Excellence Monsieur Enayatollah Samiy, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, et

*Le Président de la République Turque:*

Son Excellence Monsieur Cemal Hüsnü Taray, ancien Ministre, Député à la Grande Assemblée Nationale et ancien Délégué permanent à la Société des Nations, et

Son Excellence Monsieur Kemal Köprülü, Ministre Plénipotentiaire;

LESQUELS, après s'être communiqué leurs pleins-pouvoirs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des dispositions suivantes :

ARTICLE 1er. Les Hautes Parties Contractantes conviennent d'examiner et de régler conformément aux dispositions de la présente convention, par les autorités de frontière prévues à l'article 4. les incidents et conflits, énoncés à l'article 2. qui viendraient à surgir dans une zone de 50 kilomètres de chaque côté de la frontière entre les deux Pays.

Les incidents et conflits qui auraient surgi avant l'entrée en vigueur de la présente convention, seront réglés par la voie diplomatique.

ART. II. Sous le terme «incidents et conflits» on entend :

a ) Passage illégal de la frontière par un ou plusieurs individus portant ou ne portant pas d'armes, individuellement ou en groupe;

b ) Passage non intentionnel de la frontière par des gardes frontières portant ou ne portant pas d'armes;

partenant à l'Etat, aux institutions publiques ou à des particuliers de l'Une des Parties sur le territoire de l'Autre;

h ) Passage accidentel ou enlèvement au delà de la frontière du bétail et des troupeaux;

i ) Coups de feu tirés sur les postes et sentinelles ou bien sur les personnes ainsi que sur les bornes se trouvant sur le territoire de l'Autre Partie Contractante ;

j ) Meurtres, blessures ainsi que tous autres actes agressifs commis par des personnes résidant sur le territoire de l'Une des Parties contre les gardes-frontières et les personnes résidant sur le territoire de l'Autre;

k ) Préparatifs et tentatives ou agissements faits dans le but de troubler l'ordre et la sécurité de la zone frontière ou de nuire aux intérêts de l'Autre Partie;

l ) Violation de la frontière par la voie aérienne.

ART. III. Sous réserve de l'autorisation préalable des organes compétents centraux des Hautes Parties Contractantes, les autorités de frontière citées à l'Article 4 peuvent également régler tous incidents et conflits surgissant dans la zone frontière qui, tout en étant similaires à ceux énumérés à l'article 2, ne s'y trouvent pas explicitement prévus.

ART. IV. Les incidents et conflits prévus par la présente Convention seront examinés et réglés par les Autorités respectives de frontière qui sont:

Du côté de la République Turque :

de premier degré : Les Kaymakams,

de deuxième degré : Les Valis.

Du côté de l'Empire Iranien :

de premier degré : Les commissaires adjoints, de deuxième degré :

Les commissaires.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes conviennent de se communiquer par la voie diplomatique, conformément aux

2me degré:

b ) Les Autorités de frontière de 1er degré se réuniront régulièrement une fois tous les deux mois, leur réunion extraordinaire aura lieu d'urgence sur la demande de l'Une des Parties Contractantes qui aura à indiquer dans sa lettre y relative l'objet de l'entrevue. Dans ce dernier cas, les Autorités invitées de l'Une des Parties se rendront à la réunion dans le plus bref délai possible. En cas d'empêchement elles seront tenues d'en avertir les autorités respectives de l'autre Partie;

c ) Les autorités de 2me degré se réuniront deux fois par an, et en cas de nécessité elles se réuniront d'urgence. La date et le lieu de chaque réunion seront fixés d'un commun accord au moins un mois avant la réunion;

d ) Les autorités de frontière sont également compétentes pour fixer les montants des indemnités résultant des incidents et conflits prévus par la présente convention;

e ) Les Autorités susmentionnées dresseront, en double exemplaires en langue turque et persane, des procès-verbaux portant leurs signatures et fixant les raisons qui ont motivé leur réunion, ainsi que les décisions arrêtées à l'issue de celle-ci. Ces procès-verbaux seront échangés entre elles et remis de prédécesseur à successeur;

f ) Les réunions se feront alternativement sur le territoire de l'Une ou de l'Autre des Hautes Parties Contractantes.

ART. VI. Dans les quinze jours qui suivront la mise en vigueur de la présente Convention, les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes se communiqueront par la voie diplomatique la liste des autorités frontières, leur siège permanent, leurs secteurs d'activité, les lieux de leurs rencontres, les portes frontières, les points où s'effectueront la remise des personnes, la restitution des biens et l'échange de toute correspondance postale.

Les points de passage sur la ligne frontière seront fixés d'un commun accord par la Haute Commission de frontière.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes pourront toutefois modifier, au cours de l'application de la présente convention, d'un commun accord et par la voie diplomatique, le contenu des listes ainsi que les points de passage susmentionnés.

La Convocation ainsi que la désignation du lieu et de la date de réunion de la haute commission de frontière seront fixées d'un commun accord, par voie diplomatique.

Le première réunion de la Haute Commission aura lieu au plus tard six mois après la mise en vigueur de la présente Convention.

ART. VIII. Les autorités respectives de frontières ont droit de passage de la frontière afin d'aller aux endroits de rencontre pour le règlement des incidents et conflits ainsi que pour les affaires liées à leurs examens.

Peuvent assister aux réunions et entrevues des Autorités de frontière, des secrétaires, conseillers, interprètes, et en cas de nécessité, des experts.

Le passage de la frontière, se fera sur la foi de leurs documents personnels visés respectivement par les Autorités de frontière de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes. Ce document n'est bon que pour passer la frontière en vue de prendre part aux réunions fixées. Dans les cas urgents nécessitant les réunions extraordinaires motivées par la demande de l'Une des Parties Contractantes, cette demande doit être accompagnée de documents autorisant le passage de la frontière. Il demeure bien entendu que ce document doit être remis au poste-frontière de l'Autre Partie qui en sera averti à temps.

ART. IX Les Autorités de frontière de Chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes ont le droit de se présenter aux réunions et entrevues, dans leurs uniformes et portant leurs armes.

ART. X Les autorités de Chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes désignées à l'Art. 4, ainsi que les conseillers et experts prévus par l'Art. 8 n'autront pas à subir, lorsqu'ils se trouvent sur le territoire de l'Autre en vue de l'application des diapositions de la présente Convention, ni une perquisition personnelle ni une contrainte par corps, exception faite de celle ordonnée par les Autorités judiciaires pour le délit de droit commun commis pendant leur séjour sur le territoire de l'Autre Partie.

ART. XI Pour faciliter le règlement des incidents et conflits prévus par la présente Convention, les Autorités de frontière des Parties Contractantes peuvent procéder, si elles le jugent nécessaire, d'un commun accord,

énoncés à l'article 2. qui viendraient à surgir dans une zone de 50 kilomètres de chaque côté de la frontière entre les deux Pays.

Les incidents et conflits qui auraient surgi avant l'entrée en vigueur de la présente convention, seront réglés par la voie diplomatique.

ART. II. Sous le terme «incidents et conflits» on entend :

a ) Passage illégal de la frontière par un ou plusieurs individus portant ou ne portant pas d'armes, individuellement ou en groupe;

b ) Passage non intentionnel de la frontière par des gardes frontières portant ou ne portant pas d'armes;

c ) Passage sans autorisation requise de la frontière par des personnes privées et des fonctionnaires de la zone frontière, à condition toutefois que ce passage ait lieu accidentellement et sans mauvaise intention quelconque;

d ) Passage de la frontière dans le but de commettre un des actes tels que banditisme, pillage, enlèvement, vol et contrebande;

e ) Aide et assistance accordées au Passage illégal de la frontière et incitation des habitants du territoire de l'une des Parties Contractantes à émigrer sur le territoire de l'Autre;

f ) Déplacement ou détérioration des bornes et d'autres constructions se trouvant dans le voisinage immédiat de la frontière, y compris les installations fluviales et les canaux d'irrigation ainsi que de la ligne de Thalweg des eaux frontières;

g ) Transfert illégal des biens agissant dans la zone frontière qui, tout en étant similaires à ceux énumérés à l'article 2, ne s'y trouvent pas explicitement prévus.

ART. IV. Les incidents et conflits prévus par la présente Convention seront examinés et réglés par les Autorités respectives de frontière qui sont:

Du côté de la République Turque :
de premier degré : Les Kaymakams,
de deuxième degré : Les Valis.

Du côté de l'Empire Iranien :
de premier degré : Les commissaires adjoints, de deuxième degré :
Les commissaires.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes conviennent de se communiquer par la voie diplomatique, conformément aux dispositions de l'Art. 6, les noms des titulaires des Autorités susdites, dans un délai de 15 jours à partir de la date de la mise en vigueur de la présente Convention.

De même tout changement ultérieur de titulaire sera communiqué à l'Autre Partie par la voie diplomatique.

ART. V. Les attributions ainsi que les compétences des Autorités de frontière sont désignées dans les paragraphes suivants :

a ) Chacun des incidents et conflits énoncés à l'Article 2, seront examinés et réglés en premier lieu par les autorités respectives de premier degré de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes.

Les questions sur lesquelles ces Autorités ne seraient pas arrivées à s'entendre en deux séances, seront soumises à l'examen et au règlement des Autorités respectives de frontière de [illegible] permanent, leurs secteurs d'activité, les lieux de leurs rencontres, les portes frontières, les points où s'effectueront la remise des personnes, la restitution des biens et l'échange de toute correspondance postale.

Les points de passage sur la ligne frontière seront fixés d'un commun accord par la Haute Commission de frontière.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes pourront toutefois modifier, au cours de l'application de la présente convention, d'un commun accord et par la voie diplomatique, le contenu des listes ainsi que les points de passage susmentionnés.

ART. VII En vue de faciliter l'application des dispositions de la présente Convention et d'assurer la sauvegarde des relations de bon voisinage à la frontière commune, les Hautes Parties Contractantes sont tombées d'accord de constituer une haute commission de frontière comprenant des membres à nombre égal de part et d'autre. Cette Commission dont les réunions se feront alternativement sur le territoire de l'Une ou de l'Autre des deux Parties, s'efforcera de régler tous les incidents ou conflits n'ayant pu être résolus par les Autorités respectives de frontière, désignées par l'Art. 4. La Commission en question soumettra également à l'approbation des Gouvernements respectifs les mesures qu'elle jugera utiles de prendre en vue d'assurer, dans les meilleures conditions possibles, l'ordre et la sécurité de la frontière entre les deux Pays.

signées à l'Art. 4, ainsi que les conseillers et experts prévus par l'Art. 8 n'autront pas à subir, lorsqu'ils se trouvent sur le territoire de l'Autre en vue de l'application des dispositions de la présente Convention, ni une perquisition personnelle ni une contrainte par corps, exception faite de celle ordonnée par les Autorités judiciaires pour le délit de droit commun commis pendant leur séjour sur le territoire de l'Autre Partie.

ART. XI Pour faciliter le règlement des incidents et conflits prévus par la présente Convention, les Autorités de frontière des Parties Contractantes peuvent procéder, si elles le jugent nécessaire, d'un commun accord, à des enquêtes en commun dans la limite de la zone frontière de 2 kilomètres de chaque côté de la frontière.

Ces enquêtes en commun et les interrogatoires relatifs à un incident ou conflit surgi dans la zone frontière prévue à l'alinéa précédent, s'effectueront par les Autorités locales de frontière en présence de l'Autorité de frontière de l'Autre Partie. Les résultats de l'enquête seront résumés dans un procès-verbal.

Les victimes, témoins, ainsi que les experts de chacune des deux Parties, peuvent être autorisés, pour une seule fois par l'Autre, a participer aux enquêtes en commun. Les autorisations à leur délivrer seront visées par les Autorités frontières de l'Autre. Cependant, ils doivent être dépourvus de toute arme à leur passage de la frontière. Ils jouiront du droit de prendre avec

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, June 17, 1937.

No. 1083.

Subject: Treaty Rectifying Turko-Iranian Frontier.

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NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform the Department that on May 26, 1937, there was signed in Teheran by the Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Turkish Ambassador an agreement modifying the demarcation of a portion of the boundary line between Iran and Turkey.

This Agreement rectifies an error which is said to have occurred in paragraph 8 of Article 1 of the Irano-Turkish Frontier Agreement concluded in Teheran on January 23, 1932. The text of the old paragraph

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as well as the revised text are quoted in the new convention.

The Agreement was submitted to the Majlis on May 30, 1937, and was ratified by that body, without discussion, on June 5, 1937. The French text, a copy of which is enclosed herewith, was published in the JOURNAL DE TEHERAN of to-day.

Respectfully yours,

Van H. Engert
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

Enclosure:

Clipping from LE JOURNAL DE TEHERAN of June 17, 1937, entitled "Accord Relatif à la rectification de la ligne frontière entre l'Iran et la Turquie."

File No. 715-Triplicate.

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# ACCORD

## Relatif à la rectification de la ligne frontière

ENTRE

## L'Iran et la Turquie

En vue de rectifier une erreur dûe à la non concordance de l'énoncé de la ligne frontière tel qu'il est établi dans l'accord relatif à la fixation de la ligne frontière entre l'Iran et la Turquie, signé le 23 Janvier 1932 à Teheran, avec la carte dont on s'était servi pour le tracé de la dite ligne en ce qui concerne la région où sont situées les localités d'Eli et de Paqui et celle de Mazbicho, les plénipotentiaires des deux Parties, à savoir:

**Son Excellence Monsieur Enayatollah Samiy,**
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de l'Iran,
et
**Son Excellence Monsieur Enis Akaygen,**
Ambassadeur de Turquie à Téhéran,

munis à cet effet de pleins-pouvoirs trouvés en due forme, sont convenus des dispositions suivantes:

ARTICLE I.

Le paragraphe 8 de l'article I de l'accord sur la frontière du 23 Janvier 1932 qui formule que:

«La ligne frontière part de Kotoul Dagh cote 2.869 et se dirige par la ligne de crête vers le Sud-Est jusqu'à un point situé sur la rivière Baradost à 1.000 mètres à l'Est de Bajirgue en laissant à la Perse la crête continuant la hauteur 1890 vers le Sud (la ligne frontière passe donc par le ravin). De là, la ligne va vers le Sud-Est et passe par la colline des bornes CXLVIII et CXLVII; puis tourne vers l'Est-Sud Est jusqu'à la rivière Ekmalouk située à 450 mètres de la colline. Ensuite le ravin Ekmalouk jusqu'à la hauteur située à 300 mètres au sud de la cote 2300 De là elle suit la ligne de crête jusqu'à la cote 2.530; ensuite elle suit la ligne de crête en direction du Sud Ouest sur une étendue de 2500 mètres jusqu'à un point situé à 1.500 mètres à l'Ouest d'Alosan qui reste à la Perse. De là, la ligne suit la crête dans la direction du Sud jusqu'au coude de cette crête, à environ 2500 mètres de là. Ensuite elle tourne vers l'Est jusqu'à Aladar Dagh, en suivant toujours les crêtes. Puis elle descend vers le Sud-Est par les crêtes jusqu'au sommet qui se trouve à 2.400 mètres au Nord du confluent du ruisseau venant de Paqui et du Berdereche Tchay. De là, la ligne descend vers le Sud jusqu'à ce confluent, puis elle suit le thalweg du Berdereche Tchay jusqu'à son confluent avec le torrent qui descend 1000 mètres à l'Ouest de Garachine Dagh. La ligne suit le thalweg de ce torrent vers le Sud sur une distance de 1.600 mètres, ensuite elle grimpe sur la crête qui se dirige vers le Sud-Est jusqu'au sommet Ouest de Garachine Dagh. Les localités d'Eli et de Paqui restent à la Turquie et la partie de la localité de Mazbicho située à l'Est de la rivière venant de Paqui à l'Iran».

ARTICLE II

Le présent Accord qui fait partie intégrante de l'accord relatif à la fixation de la ligne frontière entre l'Iran et la Turquie, signé à Téhéran, le 23 Janvier 1932, sera ratifié et les instruments de ratification seront échangés à Téhéran aussitôt que faire se pourra.

Il entrera en vigueur immédiatement après l'échange des instruments de ratification.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires susnommés ont signé le présent ac-

sommet qui se trouve à 2.410 mètres au Nord du confluent du ruisseau venant de Paqui et du Berdereche Tchay. De là, la ligne descend vers le Sud jusqu'à ce confluent, puis elle suit le thalweg du Berdereche Tchay jusqu'à son confluent avec le torrent qui descend 1 000 mètres à l'Ouest de Garachine Dagh. La ligne suit le thalweg de ce torrent vers le Sud sur une distance de 1 600 mètres, ensuite elle grimpe sur la crête qui se dirige vers le Sud Est jusqu'au sommet Ouest de Garachine Dagh Les localités d'Eli et de Paqui restent à la Turquie. celle de Mazbicho, à la Perse», est modifié comme suit:

intégrante de l'accord relatif à la délimitation de la ligne frontière entre l'Iran et la Turquie, signé à Téhéran, le 23 Janvier 1932. sera ratifié et les instruments de ratification seront échangés à Téhéran aussitôt que faire se pourra.

Il entrera en vigueur immédiatement après l'échange des instruments de ratification.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires susnommés ont signé le présent accord

Fait en double exemplaire à Téhéran, le vingt-six Mai 1937.

*Signé*

Samiy M. E. Akaygen

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 415

Ankara, November 13, 1937.

Subject: Transmission of a copy of a Convention between the Turkish Republic and the Iranian Empire concerning security of the border and the adjustment of border incidents and conflicts.

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

1/ I have the honor to transmit for the Department's information an unofficial copy of the text of a Convention between the Turkish Republic and the Iranian Empire concerning security of the border and the adjustment of border incidents and conflicts, which was signed at Teheran on March 14, 1937, and entered into effect on October 6 last. The Convention, which was ratified by Turkey on June 7, 1937 (Law No. 3215), and was published in OFFICIAL GAZETTE No. 3636 of June 21, 1937, will remain in force for five years, after which period it will continue until six months after having been denounced.

CERTIFIED

denounced.

It will be observed that the Convention deals in detail with the procedure to be followed in liquidating border incidents and with the steps to be taken to ensure the preservation of peace along the frontier. Appended to the Convention is a definitive protocol which delimits the jurisdiction of the frontier authorities of the two countries and provides that that jurisdiction may in no instance extend beyond the frontier of the country for which the authority acts.

Respectfully yours,

Robert F. Kelley

Robert F. Kelley,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

Enclosure:
Text of Convention.

Copy being sent to American Legation, Teheran.

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Enclosure No. 1 to despatch No. 415, dated November 13, 1937, from the American Embassy at Ankara, Turkey.

COPY

# CONVENTION RELATIVE A LA SECURITE DE LA ZONE FRONTALIERE ET AU REGLEMENT DES INCIDENTS ET CONFLITS SURGISSANT DANS LADITE ZONE ENTRE LA REPUBLIQUE TURQUE ET L'EMPIRE DE L'IRAN.

Le Président de la République Turque, d'une part,

et

Sa Majesté Impériale le Chahinchah de l'Iran, d'autre part,

animés du désir de maintenir la sécurité dans la zone frontière et de simlifier et d'accélérer l'examen et le règlement des incidents et conflits surgissant dans ladite zone, ont décidé de conclure une nouvelle convention en remplacement de celle du 9 avril 1929, et ont nommé pour leurs plénipotentiaires respectifs:

Le Président de la République Turque:

Son Excellence Monsieur Cemal Hüsnü Taray, ancien Ministre, Député à la Grande Assemblée Nationale, ancien Délégué permanent à la Société des Nations, et

Son Excellence Monsieur Kemal Köprülü, Ministre Plénipotentiaire;

Sa Majesté Impériale le Chahinchah de l'Iran:

Son Excellence Monsieur Enayatollah Samiy, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères;

lesquels, après s'être communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des dispositions suivantes:

Art. 1.- Les Hautes Parties Contractantes conviennent d'examiner et de régler conformément aux dispositions de la présente convention, par les autorités de frontière prévues à l'Art. 4, les incidents et conflits énoncés à l'Art. 2, qui viendraient à surgir dans une zone de 50 kilomètres de chaque côté de la frontière entre les deux Pays.

Les incidents et conflits qui auraient surgi avant l'entrée en vigueur de la présente convention, seront réglés par la voie diplomatique.

Art. 2.-

Art. 2.- Sous le terme "incidents et conflits" on entend:

a) Passage illégal de la frontière par un ou plusieurs individus portant ou ne portant pas d'armes, individuellement ou en groupe;

b) Passage non-intentionnel de la frontière par des gardes-frontières portant ou ne portant pas d'armes;

c) Passage, sans autorisation requises, de la frontière, par des personnes privées et des fonctionnaires de la zone frontière, à condition toutefois que ce passage ait lieu accidentellement et sans mauvaise intention quelconque;

d) Passage de la frontière dans le but de commettre un des actes tels que banditisme, pillage, enlèvement, vol et contrebande;

e) Aide et assistance accordées au passage illégal de la frontière et incitation des habitants du territoire de l'une des Parties Contractantes à émigrer sur le territoire de l'autre;

f) Déplacement ou détérioration des bornes et d'autres constructions se trouvant dans le voisinage immédiat de la frontière, y compris les installations fluviales et les canaux d'irrigation ainsi que la ligne de Thelweg des eaux frontières.

g) Transport illégal des biens appartenant à l'Etat, aux institutions publiques ou à des particuliers de l'une des Parties sur le territoire de l'autre;

h) Passage accidentel ou enlèvement au delà de la frontière du bétail et des troupeaux;

i) Coups de feu tirés sur les postes et sentinelles ou bien sur les personnes ainsi que sur les bornes se trouvant sur le territoire de l'autre Partie Contractante;

j) Meurtres, blessures ainsi que tous autres actes agressifs commis par des personnes résidant sur le territoire de l'une des Parties contre les gardes-frontières et les personnes résidant sur le territoire de l'autre;

k) Préparatifs et tentatives ou agissements faits dans le but de troubler l'ordre et la sécurité de la zone frontière ou de nuire aux intérêts de l'autre Partie;

l) Violation de la frontière par voie aérienne.

Art. 3.-

Art. 3.- Sous réserve de l'autorisation préalable des organes compétents centraux des Hautes Parties Contractantes, les autorités de frontière citées à l'Art. 4, peuvent également régler tous incidents et conflits surgissant dans la zone frontière qui, tout en étant similaires à ceux énumérés à l'Art. 2, ne s'y trouvent pas explicitement prévus.

Art. 4.- Les incidents et conflits prévus par la présente Convention seront examinés et réglés par les Autorités respectives de frontière qui sont:

Du côté de la République Turque:

de premier degré: les Kaymakams;
de deuxième degré: les Valis.

Du côté de l'Empire Iranien:

de premier degré: les Commissaires adjoints;
de deuxièmé degré: les Commissaires.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes conviennent de se communiquer par la voie diplomatique, conformément aux dispositions de l'Art. 6, les noms des titulaires des autorités susdites, dans un délai de 15 jours à partir de la date de la mise en vigueur de la présente Convention.

De même tout changement ultérieur de titulaire sera communiqué à l'autre Partie par voie diplomatique.

Art. 5.- Les attributions ainsi que les compétences des autorités de frontière sont désignées dans les paragraphes suivants:

a) Chacun des incidents et conflits énoncés à l'Art. 2, seront examinés et réglés en premier lieu par les autorités respectives de premier degré de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes.

Les questions sur lesquelles ces autorités ne seraient pas arrivées à s'entendre en deux séances, seront soumises à l'examen et au règlement des autorités respectives de frontière de deuxième degré.

b) Les autorités de frontière de premier degré se réuniront régulièrement une fois tous les deux mois, leur réunion extraordinaire aura lieu d'urgence sur la demande de l'une des Parties Contractantes qui aura à indiquer dans sa lettre y relative l'objet de l'entrevue. Dans ce dernier cas, les autorités invitées de l'une des Parties se rendront à la réunion dans le plus bref délai possible. En cas d'empêchement elles seront tenues d'en avertir les autorités respectives de l'autre Partie;

c) Les autorités de deuxième degré se réuniront deux fois par an, et en cas de nécessité elles se réuniront d'urgence. La date et le lieu de chaque réunion seront fixés d'un commun accord au moins un mois avant la réunion.

d) Les autorités de frontière sont également compétentes pour fixer les montants des indemnités résultant des incidents et conflits prévus par la présente Convention.

e) Les autorités susmentionnées dresseront en double exemplaire en langue turque et persane, des procès-verbaux portant leurs signatures et fixant les raisons qui ont motivé leur réunion, ainsi que les décisions arrêtées à l'issue de celle-ci. Ces procès-verbaux seront échangés entre elles et remis de prédécesseur à successeur.

f) Les réunions se feront alternativement sur le territoire de l'une ou de l'autre des Hautes Parties Contractantes.

Art. 6.- Dans les quinze jours qui suivront la mise en vigueur de la présente Convention, les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes se communiqueront par la voie diplomatique la liste des autorités frontières, leur siège permanent, leurs secteurs d'activité, les lieux de leurs rencontres, les portes frontières, les points où s'effectueront la remise des personnes, la restitution des biens et l'échange de toute correspondance postale.

Les points de passage sur la ligne frontière seront fixés d'un commun accord par la Haute Commission de frontière.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes pourront toutefois modifier, au cours de l'application de la présente Convention, d'un commun accord et par la voie diplomatique, le contenu des listes ainsi que les points de passage susmentionnés.

Art. 7.- En vue de faciliter l'application des dispositions de la présente Convention et d'assurer la sauvegarde des relations de bon voisinage à la frontière commune, les Hautes Parties Contractantes sont tombées d'accord de constituer une haute commission de frontière comprenant des membres à nombre égal de part et d'autre. Cette commission dont les réunions se feront alternativement sur le territoire de l'une ou de l'autre des deux Parties, s'efforcera de régler tous les incidents ou conflits n'ayant pu être résolus par les autorités respectives de frontière, désignées par l'Art. 4. La commission en question soumettra également à l'approbation des Gouvernements respectifs les mesures qu'elle jugera

utiles

utiles de prendre en vue d'assurer, dans les meilleures conditions possibles, l'ordre et la sécurité de la frontière entre les deux Pays.

La convocation ainsi que la désignation du lieu et de la date de réunion de la haute commission de frontière seront fixés d'un commun accord, par voie diplomatique.

La première réunion de la haute commission aura lieu au plus tard six mois après la mise en vigueur de la présente Convention.

Art. 8.- Les autorités respectives de frontière ont droit de passage de la frontière afin d'aller aux endroits de rencontre pour le règlement des incidents et conflits ainsi que pour les affaires liées à leurs examens.

Peuvent assister aux réunions et entrevues des autorités de frontière, des secrétaires, conseillers, interprêtes, et en cas de nécessité, des experts.

Le passage de la frontière se fera sur la foi de leurs documents personnels visés respectivement par les autorités de frontière de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes. Ce document n'est bon que pour passer la frontière en vue de prendre part aux réunions fixées. Dans les cas urgents nécessitant les réunions extraordinaires motivées par la demande de l'une des Parties Contractantes, cette demande doit être accompagnée de documents autorisant le passage de la frontière. Il demeure bien entendu que ce document doit être remis au poste-frontière de l'autre Partie qui en sera avertie à temps.

Art. 9.- Les autorités de frontière de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes ont le droit de se présenter aux réunions et entrevues, dans leurs uniformes et portant leurs armes.

Art. 10.- Les autorités de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes désignées à l'Art. 4, ainsi que les conseillers et experts prévus par l'Art. 8, n'auront pas à subir, lorsqu'ils se trouvent sur le territoire de l'autre en vue de l'application des dispositions de la présente Convention, ni une perquisition personnelle ni une contrainte par corps, exception faite de celle ordonnée par les Autorités judiciaires pour le délit de droit commun commis pendant leur séjour sur le territoire de l'autre Partie.

Art. 11.- Pour faciliter le règlement des incidents et conflits prévus par la présente Convention, les autorités de frontière des Parties Contractantes peuvent procéder, si elles le jugent nécessaire, d'un commun accord à des enquêtes en commun dans la limite de la zone frontière de 2 kilomètres de chaque côté de la frontière.

Ces enquêtes en commun et les interrogatoires relatifs à un incident ou conflit surgi dans la zone frontière prévue à l'alinéa précédent, s'effectueront par les autorités locales de frontières en présence de l'autorité de frontière de l'autre Partie. Les résultats de l'enquête seront résumés dans un procès-verbal.

Les victimes, témoins, ainsi que les experts de chacune des deux Parties, peuvent être autorisés, pour une seule fois par l'autre, à participer aux enquêtes en commun. Les autorisations à leur délivrer seront visées par les autorités frontières de l'autre. Cependant, ils doivent être dépourvus de tout arme à leur passage de la frontière. Ils jouiront du droit de prendre avec eux, pour leurs besoins personnels, des vivres et des articles de tabac, à condition que le poids n'en excède pas 5 kilogrammes par personne. Leurs bagages seront admis au passage de la frontière en franchise des droits de douane et autres taxes, tout en étant soumis à la visite douanière.

Art. 12.- Chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes prêtera l'assistance nécessaire aux personnes se rendant à son territoire à l'occasion de l'exécution des dispositions de la présente Convention, notamment en ce qui concerne la mise à leur disposition de moyens de transport, de logement, ainsi que de moyen de liaison avec les autorités de leur propre pays.

Art. 13.- Les autorités de frontière de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes auront à prendre les mesures nécessaires et à en avertir les autorités de frontière de l'autre, pour prévenir les préparatifs concernant les actes tels que pillage, vol, enlèvement, contrebande et banditisme, à commettre sur le territoire de celle-ci, par un ou plusieurs individus portant ou ne portant pas d'armes.

Art. 14.- Les autorités de frontière de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes interdiront la chasse dans une zone de 2 kilomètres de profondeur de chaque côté de la frontière ainsi que les tirs au-delà de cette zone dans la direction du territoire de l'autre, exception faite de la chasse à courre pour les fauves, qui sera permise dans la zone de 2 kilomètres ci-haut énoncée, à condition toutefois que les autorités respectives de frontières de l'autre en soient informées à temps.

En cas d'infractions, les organes compétents de chaque Partie Contractante dresseront un procès-verbal relatant les faits en question et les circonstances dans lesquelles ils se sont produits et en communiqueront la copie aux autorités de frontière de l'autre Partie. Ils leur notifieront également la suite donnée à l'affaire.

Art. 15.- Les Hautes Parties Contractantes s'engagent à renvoyer de la zone frontière à l'intérieur du pays les

individus réputés comme auteurs habituels ou bien comme provocateurs et incitateurs des actes prévus aux paragraphes d, e, f, g, i, j et k de l'Art. 2, si leur culpabilité est définitivement établie.

Art. 16.- Lorsqu'un crime entrant dans le cadre de la Convention d'Extradition conclue entre les Hautes Parties Contractantes est commis dans la zone frontière de l'une des Parties et que le ou les auteurs ont cherché refuge sur le territoire du pays voisin, les autorités de ce pays, sur demande des autorités frontières de l'autre Partie, prendront des mesures immédiates en vue de l'arrestation préventive du ou des auteurs.

Si les coupables sont les ressortissants de l'Etat sur le territoire duquel le crime a été commis, les demandes d'extradition y relatives seront adressées par les autorités frontières de cet Etat aux autorités frontières de l'autre Partie et l'extradition aura lieu conformément aux modalités à être fixées par la Haute Commission de Frontière.

S'ils sont ressortissants de l'Etat où ils se sont refugiés, ils y seront poursuivis et jugés par les autorités judiciaires locales dont la sentence sera communiquée par les autorités frontières aux autorités respectives de l'autre Partie.

Chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes s'engage en outre à étendre aux gendarmes de l'autre Partie les dispositions des premier et deuxième alinéas du présent article.

Art. 17.- Chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes s'engage à désarmer les tribus qui, après avoir quitté le territoire de l'autre Partie, sont venus habiter la zone frontière et à les renvoyer de cette zone à l'intérieur du pays en vue de les empêcher de retourner au territoire qu'elles ont abandonné.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes conviennent que l'immigration des habitants de la zone frontière sur le territoire de l'une d'elles ne sera pas favorisée, incitée ou provoquée de part et d'autre. En cas de nécessité d'admettre cette immigration, les immigrants seront incessamment renvoyés de la zone frontière à l'intérieur du pays.

Art. 18.- Les autorités de frontière de chacune des deux Parties prendront les mesures préventives par l'intermédiaire des organes compétents de leur pays, contre la propagation sur le territoire de l'autre, d'épidémies, d'épizooties, et de parasites des plantes agricoles, conformément aux règles en vigueur dans leur pays ainsi qu'aux dispositions des Conventions Internationales auxquelles elle ont adhéré.

Art. 19.- Dans le cas où il serait établi qu'un in-

dividu, armé ou non, serait passé par erreur à la zone de deux kilomètres de chaque côté de la frontière, les autorités locales de frontière prendront les dispositions nécesraires pour le livrer aux autorités respectives de frontière de l'autre Partie.

Art. 20.- Les biens qui peuvent être reconnus comme appartenant incontestablement à l'Etat tels que armes, équipements, chevaux, etc., et qui se trouveraient transférés du territoire de l'une des Parties Contractantes sur le sol de l'autre seront immédiatement restitués.

Les animaux domestiques et les troupeaux ainsi que les biens trouvés sur le territoire de l'une des Partie Contractantes accidentellement ou en résultat d'actes tels que vol, pillage, enlèvement ou autres actes illégaux, après leur identification par les autorités de frontière, seront restitués en nature aux autorités de frontière de l'autre Partie pour être remis à qui de droit. Lors de la restitution du bétail et des biens en question aucune taxe ne sera perçue.

On donnera suite à chaque demande de restitution dans un délai maximum d'un mois.

Ce délai pourra, tout de même, être prorogé d'un mois encore si les circonstances l'imposent.

En cas d'impossibilité de procéder à la restitution en nature de tout ou une partie des biens en question, les ayants-droit de l'une des Parties Contractantes pourront en demander l'indemnisation aux autorités judiciaires les plus proches de l'autre Partie.

Dans ces cas ainsi que dans ceux où les habitants de la zone frontière de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes auraient à s'adresser aux autorités judiciaires de l'autre Partie pour des réclamations et des petits différends d'ordre individuel surgissant entre eux et les habitants de la zone respective, les autorités frontières des deux Parties auront le droit de délivrer aux ressortissants de leur pays, un passavant bon pour une seule fois et valable pendant cinq jours. Il sera précisé dans ce passavant par quel poste-frontière et chez qui se rend le titulaire.

Ledit passavant sera visé par l'autorité frontière de l'autre Partie.

Si les victimes ne peuvent pour des raisons valables s'y rendre en personne, leurs délégués seront admis à leur place sur le territoire de l'autre Partie.

Les victimes, témoins et experts peuvent se rendre sur le territoire de l'autre Partie sous conditions énoncées au troisième alinéa de l'Art. 11.

Art. 21.- Il demeure bien entendu qu'en cas de

soupçon d'épizootie, la restitution des animaux prévue par les articles ci-haut inscrits, sera effectuée sous les réserves des règlements sur la police sanitaire des animaux, en vigueur dans les deux pays.

Art. 22.- En ce qui concerne les questions de dommages découlant des incidents ou conflits prévus par les dispositions des paragraphes "f" et "g" de l'Art. 2 de la présente Convention et ne comportant aucune intervention des autorités judiciaires, les autorités respectives de frontière des Parties Contractantes se borneront à les examiner et à évaluer les dommages causés, ainsi qu'à désigner les victimes et leurs parties adverses qui tous figureront sur un procès-verbal dressé par elles pour être soumis, de part et d'autre, aux Gouvernements respectifs en vue d'un règlement par la voie diplomatique.

Art. 23.- Au cas où une des deux Parties Contractantes demanderaient au cours des opérations militaires entamées dans sa zone frontière contre les bandes et les éléments de perturbation, la fermeture d'une partie de la frontière, le mode de fermeture sera fixé dans un procès-verbal signé par les autorités respectives militaires des Hautes Parties Contractantes.

Si la Partie qui poursuit demande à l'autre Partie au cours de la poursuite, l'application de certaines mesures contre les bandes et les éléments en question, celle-ci avisera immédiatement au nécessaire en vue d'arrêter et d'appliquer lesdites mesures, jusqu'à la fin des opérations susmentionnées.

Art. 24.- Dans le cas où les bandes et les éléments de perturbation parviendraient à franchir la frontière malgré toutes les mesures prises contre eux, la Partie qui les poursuit en informera immédiatement l'autre Partie, tout en fixant, si elles existent, les traces des fugitifs.

Un procès-verbal de part et d'autre sera dressé sur les traces en question.

La Partie ainsi informée est tenue de poursuivre et de réprimer les bandes et éléments susmentionnés sur son territoire et d'en tenir régulièrement l'autre Partie au courant.

Art. 25.- Une fois que les opérations prévues à l'Art. 23 seront terminées, un procès-verbal dressé d'un commun accord, en turc et en persan, en indiquera le mode de collaboration et de l'application des mesures arrêtées à cet effet par les deux Parties Contractantes.

En cas de divergence de vue, chacune des Parties Contractantes pourra inscrire, en sa langue, au bas du pro-

cès-

cès-verbal susmentionné, ses opinions y relatives.

Art. 26.- Les aéronefs de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes préalablement autorisés à survoler le territoire de l'autre, franchiront la frontière dans des conditions à établir par la Haute Commission de Frontière prévue à l'Art. 7.

Art. 27.- Dans le cas où un aéronef de l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes, au cours d'un vol dans la région avoisinante de la zone frontière de l'autre Partie, aurait, par suite des incidents tels que panne de moteur, brouillard, orage violent, etc., un atterrissage forcé sur le territoire de l'autre, cet atterrissage doit avoir lieu dans une étendue parallèle de dix kilomètres de profondeur de chaque côté de la frontière. Les aéronefs ainsi atterris seront contrôlés et leur personnel sera interrogé. Après l'accomplissement de ces formalités, il leur sera permis de reprendre immédiatement leur vol sans qu'ils subissent aucune autre formalité.

Il en sera de même pour les sauts de parachute effectués dans les conditions susmentionnées.

Art. 28.- Les décisions prises d'un commun accord, conformément aux dispositions de la présente Convention, par les autorités de frontière ainsi que par la Haute Commission de Frontière auront un caractère définitif.

Art. 29.- La présente Convention sera ratifiée et la ratification en sera communiquée par note à l'autre Partie Contractante. Elle entrera en vigueur quinze jours après la remise de la dernière note et aura une durée de cinq ans.

Après l'expiration de ce délai elle restera en vigueur tant qu'elle n'aura pas été dénoncée par l'une des Hautes Parties Contractantes, cette dénonciation ne devant produire ses effets que six mois après la date de sa notification.

Les instruments de ratification seront échangés à Ankara aussitôt que faire se pourra.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires des Hautes Parties Contractantes ont signé la présente Convention.

Fait à Téhéran, en double exemplaire, en français, le 14 mars 1937.

(s) Demal Hüsnü Taray (s) Samiy

(s) Kemal Köprülü.

^ ^ ^

PROTOCOLE

## PROTOCOLE DE SIGNATURE

Au moment de procéder à la signature de la Convention relative à la sécurité de la zone frontalière et au règlement des incidents et conflits surgissant dans ladite zone entre la République Turque et l'Iran, les Plénipotentiaires des Hautes Parties Contractantes ont jugé utile de préciser que les compétences et les attributions des autorités frontières respectives, définies par cette Convention, ne peuvent en aucun cas s'étendre au tracé de la ligne frontière ainsi qu'aux limites des terrains et des cours d'eaux.

Le présent Protocole fait partie intégrante de ladite Convention signée en date d'aujourd'hui et entrera en vigueur en même temps que celle-ci.

Téhéran, le 14 mars 1937.

(s) Cemal Hüsnü Taray

(s) Enayetullah Samiy

(s) Kemal Köprülü.

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ankara, February 19, 1938.

No. 540

HISTORICAL ADVISER
MAR 17 1938
DEPT. OF STATE

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS
MR. DUNN
MAR 16 1938

Subject: Accord Relative to the Rectification of the Frontier Line between Turkey and Iran.

FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK
To the Field
In U. S. A.

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
MAR 10 1938
A.M/C

Office of the Geographer
MAR 17 1938
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TREATY DIVISION
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MAR 10 1938
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Filing
MAR 12 1938
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.9115/66

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith as of interest
1/ to the Geographer of the Department a translation of an accord signed at Teheran on May 27, 1937, between the Turkish Republic and the Government of Iran relative to the rectification of the frontier line between Turkey and Iran. This translation is made from the Turkish OFFICIAL GAZETTE No. 3819 of January 27, 1938, which contains the law by which Turkey ratified the accord, on January 17, 1938.

FILED
MAR 18 1938

Respectfully yours,

Robert F. Kelley

Robert F. Kelley
Chargé d'Affaires a. i.

Enclosure:
1. Translation of Accord.

Copy sent to Legation, Teheran.

715

SWW/g

Enclosure No. 1 to despatch No. 540 dated February 19, 1938, from the Embassy at Ankara.

TRANSLATION

SOURCE: OFFICIAL GAZETTE
No. 3819, dated
January 27, 1938.

# Accord Relative to the Rectification of the Frontier Line between Turkey and Iran.

Law No. 3332. Date passed: January 17, 1938.

Animated by a desire to correct the mistake caused by the non-coincidence of the frontier line concerning the region where Mazbişo Paki and Eli are located with the map used in delineating the frontier as described, stated and fixed in the Accord signed in Teheran on January 23, 1932, relative to the delimitation of the frontier line between Turkey and Iran;

His Excellency Enis Akaygen, Turkish Ambassador in Teheran,

and

His Excellency Enayetollah Samiy, Iran Foreign Minister,

Who, after exhibiting their full powers, which were found to be good and in due form, have agreed upon the following provisions:

Article 1,

The following are the provisions of paragraph 8 of Article 1 of the Frontier Accord dated January 23, 1932:

"The frontier line begins from Kotoul Dağ at altitude 2869 and passes South-East by the crest line to a point located

located on the Baradost River, 1600 metres to the east of Bacirgen, leaving to Iran the crest continuing towards the South at a height of 1890 metres. (That is to say, the Frontier Line passes by the rivulet.) From there, the line goes towards the South-East and passes by the markers CXLVII and CXLVIII, then turns to the East-East-South as far as Ekmalouk River, located at a distance of 450 metres from the hill. It then climbs contrary to the course of the stream of the Ekmalouk River as far as to the height located 800 metres South of altitude 2300. From there the line follows the line of crest to altitude 2530. Then, it follows the line of crest in the direction of South-West on a stretch of 2500 metres as far as to the point at a height of 2500 metres West of Alosan which is left to Iran. From there, the line follows the crest in the direction of South to a bend in this crest, which is approximately at a distance of 2500 metres from there. Finally, always following the line of crests, it turns towards East, as far as to Aldar Dağ. Then it descends towards the South-East by the crests as far as to the summit 2400 metres to the North of the confluent of the Berdereche Stream with another stream coming from Paki. From there, the line descends towards South as far as to the above-mentioned confluent. Then it follows the Thalweg of the Berdereche stream to its confluent with the torrent descending 1000 metres West of Garachine Dağ. The line follows the Thalweg of the torrent towards the South on a distance of 1600 metres; then it ascends to the crest which goes toward the South-East, as far as to the Western summit of Garachine Dağ. The localities of Eli and Paki are left to Turkey, Mazbişo place is left to Iran."

The

The modification made is as follows:

"The frontier line begins from the Kotoul Dağ at altitude 2869 and following the line of crest towards the South-East, as far as to the point located on Baradost Rivulet 1600 metres East of Bacirgen, leaves to Iran the crest which continues at the height of 1890, towards the South (that is to say, the Frontier passed by the rivulet). From there, the line goes towards the South-East and passes by the hill of markers CXLVII and CXLVIII, then it turns East-South-East and goes on as far as to Ekmalouk Rivulet located 450 metres from the hill. Finally, it climbs the ravine Ekmalouk to the height located 800 metres to the South of altitude 2300. From there it follows the line of crest to altitude 2530. Then, it follows the line of crest in the direction of South-West on a stretch of 2500 metres as far as to a point located 1500 metres to the West of Alosan which is left to Iran. From there, the line following the crest in the direction of South to a bend of this crest, which is approximately at a distance of 2500 metres from this point, turns towards the East as far as to Aladar Dağ. It then descends towards the South-East by the crests as far as to the summit of Hochap Hill at altitude 2800, where marker 476 is placed; and then it continues to descend from Hochap Hill in a straight line as far as to the rivulet coming from Paki, meeting at the point marked (TI) on the attached sketch signed by both parties and which is located approximately 500 metres to the North-East of Mazbişo; following from this point the Thalweg of the said rivulet as far as to the confluent of this river with the Berdereche stream. Then the line follows the

Thalweg

Thalweg of this stream as far as to the confluent of the Berdereche stream with the torrent descending 1000 metres West of the Garachine Dağ. The line then follows the Thalweg of the torrent towards the South on a distance of 1600 metres; then it ascends to the crest which goes towards the South-East, as far as to the Western summit of the Garachine Dağ. Eli and Paki are left to Turkey and the part of the locality of Mazbişo remaining East of the rivulet flowing from Paki is left to Iran."

The present accord which is part of the complete convention relative to the determination of the Frontier Line between Turkey and Iran, signed in Teheran on January 23, 1932, will be ratified and copies of it will be immediately exchanged in Teheran.

The present accord shall enter into effect upon the exchange of ratified copies.

In witness thereof, the above-mentioned plenipotentiaries have signed the present accord.

Done in Teheran, in duplicate, the 27th of May one thousand nine hundred and thirty seven.

(s) M. E. Akaygen (s) Samiy.

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Teheran, July 14, 1938.

1938 AUG 20 AM 11 55

No. 1344.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

Subject: Appointment of Commission under Irano-Turkish Frontier Convention.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AUG 22 1938
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

FOR DISTRIBUTION - CHECK YES
To the Field
In U. S. A.

767.9115/67

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A-M/C
AUG 2 1938
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

TREATY DIVISION
AUG 26 1938
File C/B
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the 64 honor to refer to the Legation's Despatch No. 1068 of March 31, 1937, and to report that under the provisions of Article VII of the Irano- Turkish Convention concerning security in the Frontier Regions and the Settlement of Incidents and Disputes Relating Thereto, signed at Teheran, March 14, 1937,

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AUG 31 1938

four

four persons headed by Colonel Mozayène have been designated as the Iranian members of an Irano-Turkish commission to meet in Trebizond to discuss customs arrangements in that city and the transit trade to Iran. Representatives of the interested Ministries will also attend the sessions of the Commission.

The Iranian group was met at Bazergan, on the Irano-Turkish frontier, on June 30, 1938, at 9:00 a.m. by the Turkish members of the Commission, and they proceeded to Trebizond together.

This is the first time such a commission has been formed under the provisions of the Convention cited. In the present case, the initiative was taken by the Turkish Government.

Respectfully yours,

James S. Moose, Jr.,
Chargé d' Affaires a.i.

File No. 715.

In triplicate.

Copy sent to Embassy, Istanbul.

JSM2/RJG.

18215

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, August 5, 1938.

No. 1364.

Subject: Return of Irano-Turkish Commission.

TREATY DIVISION
SEP 28 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS
MR. DUNN
SEP 17 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS
SEP 29 1938
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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AND RECORDS

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A-M/C
SEP 19 1938
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OF STATE

To the Field
Copy to Commerce
SEP 29 1938

737.9115/68

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

In continuation of the Legation's despatch No. 1344 of July 14, 1938, I have the honor to report the return to Teheran on August 2, 1938 of the Iranian group participating in the Irano-Turkish frontier commission which convened on June 30, 1938.

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SEP 30 1938

The officially inspired local press states that the mixed commission achieved its aim; and there seems to be no doubt that its purpose was to make arrangements which would facilitate Iranian transit trade through Trebizond (Trabzon).

None of the decisions reached or arrangements made by the commission have been announced.

Respectfully yours,

James S. Moose

James S. Moose, jr.,
Chargé d' Affaires a.i.

File No. 715.

In triplicate.

Copy sent to Embassy, Istanbul.

JSM2/RJG.

Y

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Tehran, July 13, 1939.

No. 1630.

Subject: Exchange of Ratifications of Turko-Iranian Frontier Accord.

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to the field
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SEP 2 1939
767.9115/65

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

Referring to my despatch No. 1083 of June 17, 1937, I have the honor to report that on July 11, 1939, the exchange of ratifications took place at the Foreign Office in Teheran of the Agreement which had been signed

here

here on May 26, 1937, rectifying a portion of the frontier between Iran and Turkey.

The ratifications were exchanged by the Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mouzaffar Aalam, and the Turkish Ambassador, Mehmet Enis Akaygen.

Respectfully yours,

C. Van H. Engert.

C. Van H. Engert
Chargé d' Affaires a.i.

File No. 715.

In triplicate.

Copy sent to Embassy, Istanbul.

CVHE/RJG.

Central File: Decimal File 767.9115, Political Relations Of States, Relations; Bi-Lateral Treaties., Political., Turkey And Iran, Boundary Questions. Composition Of Differences., July 14, 1930 - July 13, 1939. July 14, 1930 - July 13, 1939. MS Turkey, Greece, and the Balkan States: Records of the U.S. Department of State, 1930-1944: Records of the Department of State Relating to Political Relations of Turkey, Greece, and the Balkan States, 1930-1939. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5111389134%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC. Accessed 21 June 2025.